The Pittsburgh Gazette.

ESTABLISHED JULY 29, 1786.---VOL. 91.---NO. 124. THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 21, 1876. EIGHT DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

SECOND EDITION

THE FIELD OF POLITICS.

The Situation in Louisiana.

Two Members of the Returning Board Before the House Committee.

The Legal Legislature of South Carolina to Adjourn To-morrow.

HENDRICKS INTERVIEWED ON THE PRESIDENTIAL QUESTION.

LOUISIANA.

Proceedings of the Senatorial Investigating Committee.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—The Senate Committee met at half-past eleven. A statement of the votes rejected in each parish, and at what polls rejected, was received from the Returning Board. Senator McDonald made a motion that a subpœna *duces tecum* issue to the Returning Board for all protests and affidavits accompanying the consolidated statements of supervisors, also for the returns of the commissioners of each poll in each parish. Senator Howe, chairman, said he could not understand what a figure the protests and affidavits which formed the basis of the action of the Returning Board could cut in this investigation unless the committee proposed to review the action of the board in an appellate capacity. Senator McDonald said it was not the province of the committee to determine anything. The committee wanted only facts for the information of the body from which the committee derived its authority. The committee ought to know the facts upon which the board rejected the votes, which by the statement received they admit they did reject.

Testimony Before the House Committee.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—The following testimony was taken by the House committee to-day:

Chas. Cassanave, of the Returning Board, testified that he was born in New Orleans; is recorder of births, deaths and marriages; has been a member of the Returning Board since 1872; all members of the board belonged to the Republican party. There was a recommendation to fill the vacancy, but the board couldn't agree. Mr. Kennedy was proposed. Witness refused to answer whether or not he favored electing Kennedy as a member of the board. Some returns of supervisors were returned direct to the board; others to the Secretary of State. The returns were opened in the presence of representatives of both parties. All final decisions were made in private session. The board made up the returns from the consolidated statements of supervisors; never allowed any additions to be made by the supervisors after the statements were received by the board. In a few cases they sent for boxes, but do not remember what parishes; did not canvass the returns; had no returns from Caddo; threw out East Feliciana because of general intimidation before and during the election; do not remember having acted on any proof made of intimidation previous to the last registration. When asked if he intended to bring for the inspection of the committee the original returns, or copies, he said he had not brought the papers; could not bring them without the consent of the board; would consult with the other members of the board about bringing them if they consented; do not know whether Tilden or Hayes had a majority of the votes cast according to the supervisors' statements; never heard any members say who had a majority; know they threw out two parishes and several polls in other parishes; thinks the votes thrown out aggregated several thousand, could not say how many; thinks probably four or five thousand; do not expect the number of parishes in which votes were thrown out; thinks fourteen or fifteen.

Casanave gave testimony similar to that of General Anderson last night regarding three questioned polls in Orleans parish, and most other matters as to the action of the board.

Gen. Anderson Recalled

Thomas C. Anderson was recalled. He handed a statement to the committee, saying it was the original statement signed by all the members of the returning Board, showing the vote for Presidential electors in the State. The statement contained the aggregate votes, and the votes by parishes. In case of the count of the electoral vote, and that it would be an usurpation, in flagrant violation of the rights of the people should the vote be counted and contested decided by the presiding officer of the Senate in defiance of the rights of the House of Representatives.

Question—What public significance should be attached to the action of the Democrats in calling public meetings in the Northwest, and especially in this State, and at your supposed connection with it, has given rise to much comment, will you state whether in your opinion either party would under any circumstances be justified in resorting to force to secure the Presidency?

Gov. Hendricks—The fact that this power above alluded to is claimed for the President of the Senate and its exercise by him is threatened has greatly contributed to excite popular feeling and this condition of the public mind. The Democratic committee of the State issued the call for the convention of the 8th of January, not for the purpose, as I suppose, of making any threats or of organizing any resistance, but solemnly, for the purpose of making a public expression against threatened invasions of popular rights, and of giving the House of Representatives an appropriate sense of support in the exercise of its constitutional rights and prerogatives. There is no purpose so far as I am informed, of going further. Without an answer to your inquiry, I do not regard force as a means to be contemplated to secure the Presidency. So far as the 8th of January convention is concerned, I am very sure that its reliance—its only reliance—to secure the results of the Presidential election, will be upon the force and power of public opinion in support of the right and against the wrong, and in support of the House of Representatives in the assertion and exercise of its constitutional powers, as these powers have been declared in the uniform practice and in the adoption of the twenty-second joint rule and the passage by the Senate of Gov. Morton's bill at the last session. It is perhaps proper to add that the House not only positively asserts its right to participate in the count, and should that right be denied and refused by the Senate, supported by the executive power, we would stand in the presence of serious dangers, not because of any party movements, but because of a conflict in the machinery of government without any tribunal for its adjustment. I observe in some newspapers the statement that a secret political society is being organized in this State, the purposes of which are dangerous to the peace of society. I think I am in a position to know if there were any such movement in this State or any portion of it, and I feel confident in saying that the report is without foundation in truth. It is wholly false, as I believe, and as I think I know, and has its origin with bad men and for partisan and bad purposes. The contest in this State last summer and fall was, on the part of the Democracy and Conservatives, eminently fair and open. There was no motive, and, as I am aware, there is no purpose to depart from that policy.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Legal Legislature.

COLUMBIA, December 20.—The Senate to-day decided by a strict party vote to adjourn with the Republican House *sine die* on the 22d inst. Their tax and appropriation bills passed second reading in the Senate. The tax levy aggregates seventeen mills, exclusive of local taxes, and is equal to $2,000,000.

Hampton's House.

A resolution passed the Democratic House to-day instructing Governor Hampton to issue a proclamation calling upon all citizens to pay to such persons as he may designate twenty-five per cent. of the State and county tax for the last fiscal year, and the persons paying such tax shall receive certificates receivable for taxes hereafter.

HEWITT'S CHARGE.

Reply of the Postmaster at New York —the Charge Pronounced False.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Mr. James, Postmaster, has sent the following to Hon. S. A. Hewitt, at Washington:

I am informed that you charge on the floor of Congress that your letters passing through this office are or have been opened before reaching your hands. Do you charge that it is or has been actually or probably done in this office? If so, please supplement your charge with a motion for an immediate investigation, as I pronounce such an accusation utterly and absolutely false.

VIRGINIA.

Sympathy for South Carolina.

RICHMOND, VA., December 20.—In the Senate to-day Senator Johnson's resolutions condemning Federal interference in the affairs of South Carolina, and expressing Virginia's sympathy for the people of that State, were further discussed. An amendment was inserted calling on South Carolinians to continue their forbearance, after which they were adopted—yeas 31, nays 4. The negative votes were cast by Republicans.

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

Debate in the Senate on the Oregon Case.

A Wrangle in the House About Compelling the Production of Telegrams.

WASHINGTON, December 20, 1876.

SENATE.

APPORTIONMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. HITCHCOCK introduced a bill supplemental to the act for the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States according to the ninth census. Referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. It provides for an additional Representative in Congress for the State of Nebraska.

TERRITORY OF HURON.

The Senate reconsidered the vote by which the bill to establish the Territory of Pembina was ordered to a third reading and passed on the 8th of August last. The name of the new territory which is to be organized out of a portion of the present territory of Dakota was changed from Pembina to Huron, and the bill was passed.

SOUTH PASS OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War inclosing a report of Major Comstock, Corps of Engineers, showing the condition of the work of improving the South Pass of the Mississippi. Ordered printed and to lie on the table

THE PENSION APPROPRIATION BILL

passed with an amendment submitted by Mr. DAVIS, requiring the Commissioner of Pensions to hereafter incorporate in his annual report a statement showing the amount paid for additional pensions, and also the annual reduction in pensions.

PACIFIC RAILROAD ACTS.

Mr. WRIGHT gave notice that on Friday morning, immediately after the morning hour, he would move to take up the Senate bill declaring the true intent and meaning of the Union Pacific Railroad acts, approved July 1, 1862, July 2, 1864, and July 2, 1866.

THE OREGON CASE.

The discussion upon the resolution of Mr. Mitchell authorizing an investigation as to the appointment of Cronin, Prudhomme and Watkins as Electors was then renewed.

Mr. BOGY resumed his argument from the point where he suspended yesterday. The Committee on Privileges and Elections of this body had got to be a most important committee. The House could put its foot into the Senate until he had passed the order of that committee. Mr. Thurman could be a Senator, whether elected by Legislature or not, unless he was elected also by the chairman of the committee on Privileges and Elections. The Senator from Indiana (Morton), of this committee, reminded him (Bogy) of what is called in modern times a "Returning Board." The Committee on Privileges and Elections had got to be the great returning board of the Senate. These returning boards were not confined to the South. It was conceded that Tilden had a popular majority of 250,000, but Hayes had three returning boards, so that to cipher the thing down to one returning board was worth 100,000 votes. Mr. Mitchell said if the Returning Board in Oregon could carry out its purpose it would be equal to 40,000 out of people. He (Bogy) was glad that this Oregon matter had happened. It was a most fortunate thing, as it had compelled the Senators on the other side to investigate all these questions as they should do. The Oregon case has upset all this argument about a *prima facie* case. If it had not happened, there would have been no end to the arguments on the other side about returns from Louisiana and Florida constituting a *prima facie* case, and Congress could not go behind the action of the returning boards of other States. Now, it was plain that Congress had a right and power to go behind the returns in Oregon. The Senate was not a returning board. The Constitution, reminded him (Bogy) of what is called in modern times a "Returning Board." The Committee on Privileges and Elections had got to be the great returning board of the Senate. These returning boards were not confined to the South. It was conceded that Tilden had a popular majority of 250,000, but Hayes had three returning boards, so that to cipher the thing down to one returning board was worth 100,000 votes. Mr. Mitchell said if the Returning Board in Oregon could carry out its purpose it would be equal to 40,000 out of people. He (Bogy) was glad that this Oregon matter had happened. It was a most fortunate thing, as it had compelled the Senators on the other side to investigate all these questions as they should do. The Oregon case has upset all this argument about a *prima facie* case. If it had not happened, there would have been no end to the arguments on the other side about returns from Louisiana and Florida constituting a *prima facie* case, and Congress could not go behind the action of the returning boards of other States. Now, it was plain that Congress had a right and power to go behind the returns in Oregon. The Senate was not a returning board. Mr. Morton said returning boards were not a new invention. They were as old as the Constitution of the United States. There was a time when the Union which had not authorized one or more persons to count the votes and certify who was elected. In two States, as in Louisiana, these boards had discretionary and judiciary powers. The decision of returning boards in some States by the laws of the State were made final. In Oregon the Governor had no discretionary power, no judicial power. He had no power in the matter. The fraudulent vote, he supposed, of the returning board had broad judicial power. It may have made a wrong decision. He would not discuss now that question. Under the laws of Oregon exercised, powers not given him by the laws of the State.

Mr. KERR said he would not count a vote which he believed was not thrown to elect a man who had triumphantly been elected President by the American people. He did not desire to do anything of the wrong in the canvass of votes by the Senate. He argued that every ballot cast for Watts was no more than a blank piece of paper, and the Governor of Oregon, taking that view of the case, saw his way clear to give Cronin a certificate, as every vote given for Cronin was a proper legal vote by a correct construction of the law of Oregon the certificate of election to Cronin was right and proper. Although he (Kerr) thought the Governor should have certified to the election of two men, and only two men. He (Eaton) would not vote to place in the Presidential chair the candidate of the Democratic party on the vote of the Democratic elector in Oregon. The political stomach of the Senator from Oregon (Mitchell) was disordered, he (Kerr) was sorry to say, a small matter, but it could stand the garlic of South Carolina, Louisiana and Florida. He then read a recently published letter of John J. Log, the Republican candidate for the Louisiana Legislature, declining to accept the seat awarded him by the Returning Board, on the ground that he had been fairly defeated by his Democratic opponent, and resuming his argument, said a single witness like this man weighed down a dozen affidavits. Long said there was no intimidation in Desoto parish, but the Senator from Ohio (Sherman) declared there was.

In conclusion, Mr. EATON argued that the Representatives of the people could not afford to do wrong. The President of the United States had been requested as saying he would deliver over the office to Hayes if he should be declared to be elected. The President had nothing to do with it. It would be a fatal mistake to do anything wrong. The good sense of the people of this country would see that justice was done.

Mr. EATON also argued that the President of the Senate had no more right to count the votes for President than one of the pages. The President of the Senate was not President of the joint convention unless chosen by the joint convention to that position.

Mr. SHERMAN said he was not informed that the Returning Board had returned Mr. Long as elected to the Legislature from Desoto parish. He thought the gentleman leaped before he came to the stile. He then referred to the affidavits of intimidation in Desoto parish, and resuming, said the will of the people of Oregon had been fairly expressed in favor of the Hayes electors, and he was entitled to three votes from that State.

Mr. BOGY said he was not informed that the Returning Board had returned Mr. Long as elected to the Legislature from Desoto parish. He thought the gentleman leaped before he came to the stile. He then referred to the affidavits of intimidation in Desoto parish, and resuming, said the will of the people of Oregon had been fairly expressed in favor of the Hayes electors, and he was entitled to three votes from that State.

Mr. BOGY simply the same rule to Florida.

Mr. SHERMAN said he was perfectly willing to apply the rule to Florida. but these things were governed by the laws of State. Oregon had her laws and Florida had hers. If Governor Hayes should become satisfied he had not a majority of the popular votes of Florida and Louisiana, he would not accept the office of President. If it should be clear that Governor Hayes had not received that majority, he (Sherman) would not have him accept the office.

Mr. SHERMAN then argued that the Louisiana Returning Board was a legally constituted body, and it had not been shown that that board made a false return. He did not desire to see Governor Hayes have the benefit of any wrong, and he was satisfied that he spoke the sentiments of Governor Hayes when he said if that gentleman should be convinced that the Returning Board of Louisiana or Florida acted wrong, he would make no claim to the office of President. There was an absence of any proof that these boards had acted wrong. As for returns from those States now stood they were just as much entitled to be counted as the returns from New York or Ohio, and he could show from the evidence now before the Senate that the State of Louisiana, in fairness, should be counted for Governor Hayes.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

IRISH CONGRATULATIONS.

The Speaker said he had information that there was a gentleman in the city who was the bearer to the people of this country of a communication from the Irish nation congratulating the American people upon this their Centennial year.

Mr. HOLMAN then asked unanimous consent to offer a resolution reciting that Mr. J. O'Connor Power, M. P., had been deputized to present to the people of the United States the congratulations of the Irish nation on the centenary of American independence, and referring the subject of his instructions to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, with instructions to report what action should be taken in the premises.

After a short discussion the resolution was adopted.

COMPELLING THE PRODUCTION OF TELEGRAMS.

The report of the Judiciary Committee on the question of the power of the House of Representatives to compel the production of telegrams was made. The report asserts that right. A resolution offered by Mr. Hurd from the majority of the committee makes the same assertion, but requires that a description of the telegrams be given. A substitute for both of them has been offered by Mr. Knott, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, declaring that telegraphic communications have no more privilege than oral or other communications, and must be produced when called for. A long discussion ensued. Among the notable speeches made was one by Mr. GARFIELD, protesting that the telegraph should be as sacred as the postoffice, and one by Mr. HEWITT, declaring that the sanctity of the postoffice was more imaginary than real, as his (Hewitt's) letters had been constantly opened in the New York postoffice.

Mr. HEWITT went on to say that while he subscribed to the doctrine that private communications of individuals should be protected, he wished to say on this occasion that there was no purpose on the Democratic side to prevent the telegraph being opened freely on both sides, and he thanked heaven that there was no communication bearing his name that he was not willing and would not be glad to have published, and he had already authorized the President of the Western Union Telegraph Company to produce every telegram bearing his signature. (Democratic applause.)

Mr. GARFIELD suggested that it was the duty of the gentleman (Hewitt) to ask for an inquiry, and he (Garfield) would assist him in it.

Mr. WOOD (N. Y.) favored the report of the committee, and oppo sed Mr. Hurd's amendment as being tantamount to a defeat of the Louisiana investigation.

Finally Mr. Hurd's resolution requiring the subpœna to describe the specific telegrams to be produced was defeated—yeas 94, nays 122—and Mr. Knott's substitute was adopted without a division.

Mr. PLATT then asked unanimous consent to offer a resolution for an inquiry into the charge made by Mr. Hewitt against the New York postoffice, but objection was made by Mr. LUTTRELL.

On motion of Mr. PHILLIPS, the Senate amendment of the House bill for the sale of certain lands in Kansas was non-concurred in.

Mr. CHITTENDEN asked leave to introduce and have referred to the Banking Committee a bill for

FUNDING LEGAL TENDER NOTES,

but objection was made by Mr. HOLMAN. The bill provides, first, that the Secretary of the Treasury be and is hereby authorized to withdraw, as soon as the necessary preparations can be made, the legal tender notes of the United States whenever presented by the holders thereof, and issue therefor in lar for dollar, face value, coupon or registered bonds of the United States in the spirit of the original legal tender act, provided that the bonds authorized by this act shall be payable in gold at the expiration of forty years from the 1st of January, 1877, and bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, payable quarterly in gold. Second. That the bonds authorized by the act shall be available for deposit in the Treasury of the United States for banking purposes under the provisions of the various laws relating to National banks. Third. That legal tender notes received in exchange for bonds under this act shall be destroyed, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

A conference report on the bill to provide for the expense of the investigating committees was made by Mr. HOLMAN, discussed and agreed to.

Adjourned.

WASHINGTON TOPICS.

Mileage of Messengers Bearing the Electoral Votes.

The Treasury Department has made up the amount of mileage for messengers bearing the electoral votes of the different States. The total amount for all messengers is $8,857. The messenger from Oregon gets the largest amount, $931. Some one will have to decide which one of the Oregon messengers is entitled to this amount.

Pacific Railroads.

The House Committee on Pacific Railroads has reconsidered the vote by which they heretofore authorized their chairman to report for passage the Senate bill extending the time for the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad. This action is taken with a view to considering certain amendments for the protection of homestead and pre-emption settlers, &c. The session was mainly occupied in discussing a new proposition providing that the Southern Pacific Company of California shall be allowed to build seven hundred miles of the western portion of the Trans Continental line under the provisions of the original Atkins bill, making the through line an open highway for the Government and people and all railroad companies, and reserving to Congress the right to regulate charges for freight and passengers. The committee adjourned without action.

Powers of Special Investigating Committees.

A majority of the House Committee on Judiciary have decided that special investigating committees have the right to send for telegraphic dispatches when in the opinion of the committee such dispatches are essential to the purposes of inquiry, or in other words, that any committee's demand for telegrams, etc., must be complied with under the penalty of being held in contempt of the House. This was in substance the position taken by Mr. Lynde, chairman of the sub-committee to whom the subject was referred for report. Messrs. Hurd and McCrary reported that in their opinion the telegrams called for should be specifically described. In this view they were sustained by Messrs. Hoar and Frye, but Mr. Lynde's proposition was adopted by a vote of five against six, the affirmative votes being cast by Messrs. Hunton, Ashe, Lynde and Caulfield. Messrs. Lord and Lawrence were absent.

Nomination Confirmed.

The Senate confirmed Oliver C. Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania, as Coiner of the United States Mint at Philadelphia. Postmasters—J. W. Gillespie, Alliance, O.; Mrs. Durand Durand Dorsey, Gibson, Ind.; James Noland, Marion, Ind.; Wm. R. Ellis, Goshen, Ind.; Wm. H. Hart, Frankfort, Ind.; A. B. Cooper, Union City, Ind.; Edgar Walters, Lebanon, Ind.

Orton Subpœnaed.

Wm. Orton, President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, was on Tuesday served with a subpœna to appear in person on December 26th before the election investigating committee at New Orleans and produce certain desired telegrams. The action of the House yesterday gives authority to the Sergeant-at-arms to enforce all process in that direction.

BREVITIES BY WIRE.

TRENTON, N. J., December 20.—Henry W. Green, ex-Chancellor and an eminent jurist, died last night.

NEW YORK, December 20.—The tugboat Jacob L. Neafie, while off the highlands, about ten miles from shore, this morning, blew up, killing the captain and a deck hand. The steward, engineer and firemen were rescued.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., December 21.—During a row in this morning Geo. H. Smith, a jeweler, was killed by a falling wall.

LONDON, December 21. — The steamer City of Bristol, after being out fourteen days, has put back to Bristol. She was greatly damaged in a gale on the 14th, losing her foremast and bowsprit. The second officer and four men were washed overboard.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Dion gets the first and second prize, and Blossom the third, in the billiard tournament.

DETROIT, Mich., December 20.—The Pacific express bound west over the Great Western railroad ran off the track at Dorchester, ten miles east of London, at three o'clock this morning. Three mail and express cars were thrown down, but the passengers are reported slightly injured, none seriously. The accident was caused by the switch at Dorchester being left open.

NEW YORK, December 20.—The Pennsylvania Coal Company sold 80,000 tons Pennsylvania coal to-day. 25,000 tons lump, steamer grate and egg brought $2 82½; 47,000 tons stove, $3 42½@3 45; 8,000 tons chestnut $3 07½@3 15.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 20.—A number of prominent business men of Virginia City have signed an address to the Nevada Senators, Sharon and Jones, asking their co-operation in obtaining the passage by Congress of a bill providing for the issue of legal tender silver notes, with a view to restoring the value of silver as a circulating medium.

MEMPHIS, December 20.—Sheriff Manning, of Pinck county, Miss., was arrested at Jackson, Miss., a day or two since for the murder of a man named Harvey, of Louisville, at Austin, Miss., several weeks since. Mrs. Manning and three men have also been arrested at Austin as accessories. The men have confessed to their share of the murder and unite in saying that Sheriff Manning killed Harvey.

WORCESTER, MASS., December 20.—A serious collision occurred this afternoon between a passenger and mixed train on the Boston, Barre & Gardner railroad, near Princeton station, by which one person was killed, three fatally injured, and twenty more or less hurt. The responsibility of the accident is unknown, as both conductors claim to have been running on time.

THE INDIAN WAR.

A Camp Attacked by Savages—Two Men Horribly Mutilated.

HOT CREEK, WY., December 20.—Four freight teams, accompanied by five men, were attacked by Indians while in camp on Indian Creek, six miles north of here, about 9 o'clock last night. Three of the party escaped and arrived here at midnight, barefooted and half clothed. A detachment of soldiers and a party of citizens repaired to the scene of the fight early this morning, and found the bodies of two men—B. C. Stephens, of Salt Lake, and a German, named Fritz, from Colorado—horribly mutilated with a butcher's cleaver taken from one of the wagons. The contents of the wagons were scattered over the ground, flour and corn in piles as it had been emptied from sacks. Six horses are missing, and four are over forty bullet holes in one wagon. The shells found are of Sharp's rifle cartridge. The dead were brought here and buried.

Two hundred and forty-eight Arrapahoe and Sioux Indians, under the command of Louis Richards, a half-breed, passed here on Sunday, *en route* to join Crook.

Gone With Another Woman—A Heartless Wretch.

JEFFERSONVILLE, December 20.—John Inman, a guard at the State prison, who has a wife and six children in this city, has eloped with Miss Sarah Bailey, a prepossessing girl of nineteen. Inman's father has taken the deserted wife and children to his home in Martin county, and paid all the considerable indebtedness contracted by his wayward son.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Resignation of the Servian Ministry.

AN AUSTRIAN MONITOR FIRED ON BY SERVIANS.

THE WAR CLOUD.

A Turkish Explanation.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 20.—The Imperial Hott appointing Midhat Pasha Grand Vizier declares that the appointment is made because the Sultan desires a satisfactory solution of the pending questions, while confirming at the same time before the whole world the legitimate rights and interests of the empire.

Resignation of the Servian Ministry.

BELGRADE, December 20.—The ministry have resigned in consequence of a misunderstanding which arose yesterday between the sentries of a fortress and an Austrian monitor.

Occupation of Bulgaria.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 20.—Great Britain's reply to the Russian proposal regarding the occupation of Bulgaria by neutral troops has not yet been received here. It is understood, however, that Switzerland has declined it, and it is believed that Belgium will also decline to act.

Turks on Their Dignity.

LONDON, December 21. — A telegram from Constantinople says the appointment of Midhat Pasha is very favorably received by the entire people. The Turkish people, while willing to accept reforms, resolutely object to any concessions detrimental to the dignity of the Empire.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Louisville Forger Sent Home.

LONDON, December 20.—Charles Brent, the Louisville forger, has been delivered into the custody of an English detective, designated by United States Minister Pierrepont to receive him, and will leave to-night for Queenstown and embark for the United States.

The London "Times" on the Eastern Question.

LONDON, December 20.—The *Times*, in a leading editorial on the conference, says: It is interesting to observe how far the Conservatives as well as Liberals have traveled from their original position respecting the Eastern question. A few days ago we indicated that Russia would abandon her design for the occupation of Bulgaria if the conference should provide some other effective guarantee, and we also mentioned a suggestion that the duty of police should be undertaken by the troops of some small State like Belgium. We have yet to see whether Belgium will consent to undertake so delicate a task. But in the more far that the powers will allow such scheme to be laid before the conference we find a striking illustration of the distance to which our friends as well as the enemies of Turkey have been driven by the force of events. It may be said that such arguments are futile, because they leave out of the account the will of Turkey herself.

But the *Times* thinks uncompromising resistance on the part of Turkey is out of the question, if she be not permitted to believe that she would have England's support in case of a conflict.

The article concludes as follows: If the Marquis of Salisbury should be instructed to tell the Porte it would forfeit the support of England by uncompromising resistance, the new Grand Vizier would, we believe, see the necessity of submission, and the last danger of war would pass away.

A second editorial article in the *Times* ridicules the idea of Belgian occupation, and says if peace is to be preserved by a union of the six powers, they must be resolved to act for themselves as well as to deliberate.

AUSTRIA.

A Monitor Fired on by the Servians.

VIENNA, December 20.—The *Political Correspondance* says while the Austrian monitor Maros was passing a fortress at Belgrade yesterday, several musket shots were fired from the fort against the vessel. The Austrian Consul General, Prince Wiede, who was on board, immediately ordered the Maros to advance and take the gentleman on board Belgrade. The Maros took the position, and as the gun in her turret was being loaded a shell accidentally exploded, seriously wounding one ensign and four sailors, and slightly wounding officers and others. The sentries from the fort again fired their muskets, supposing the monitor was firing on the fort. Prince Milan sent Minister Garashanin to the Austrian consul with apologies, and informing him that the commander of the fort had been dismissed. This is the misunderstanding referred to in the Belgrade dispatch as having caused the resignation of the Servian Ministry.

FRANCE.

Stipends of the Clergy.

VERSAILLES, December 20.—The Financial Committee of the Senate have agreed to the proposal to reinsert in the budget grants of $40,000 for increase ng the stipends of the clergy and $200,000 for scholarships in seminaries, these items having been stricken out by the Chamber of Deputies. The committee, however, have accepted the suppression of two other grants of smaller amounts for religious purposes. M. Ducleric will move the appointment by the Senate of a delegation to confer with the Financial Committee of the Deputies on the contested points.

GREECE.

Increasing the Army.

ATHENS, December 20.—The Chamber of Deputies unanimously passed the bill raising the strength of the military forces to 25,000 men.

THE FIRE RECORD.

The Losses by the Conflagration at Little Rock, Ark.

LITTLE ROCK, December 20.—Last night's terrible conflagration was brought under control between 11 and 12 o'clock. The flames, by the exertions of the fire department, were confined to the Miller & Pezzil block. The loss is estimated at $160,000, and the insurance at less than half The block, a three-story brick, was owned by Fred. Kramer, and valued at $15,000. The three and two story brick buildings, owned by the same party, which were razed to prevent the spread of the flames, were worth $5,000. The lodge room of the Masonic bodies in the third-story could not be entered, and the loss was complete, $3,000 to $5,000. Jones, McDowell & Co. lose about $40,000. Miller & Penzel covered about $90,000 in stock, and will lose heavily. The insurance is as follows: Miller & Penzel's block, $5,000 in the Fire Association and $5,000 in the Girard of Philadelphia; on Miller & Penz l's stock, $2,500 in the Franklin of St. Louis; Jones, McDowell & Co., stock, $2,500 each in the Royal Canadian, Amazon of Cincinnati, and $5,000 in the Citizens of St. Louis.

Within the past six weeks this city has lost $350,000 from fires, the cause of any of which is shrouded in mystery.

The epidemic of fires has caused intense excitement here, which is now assuming shape. The City Council resumed its session to-night, which was interrupted by the alarm of last night. The officials will adopt measures for the better protection of property. New fire apparatus is ordered. To-night a large force of watchmen is employed by property owners, who will guard the business part of the city. It is believed by many and charged by the *Evening Star* of this date that incendiaries and instruments have banded together for the purpose of plunder, and that vigilance committees should be organized and incendiaries hung. During last night's fire an unsuccessful effort was made to burn the brick block owned by Mayor John G. Fletcher. A bale of cotton was saturated with kerosene and lig-

A Portion of Mary's Lick, Ky., Destroyed.

LOUISVILLE, December 20.—A *Courier-Journal* special says: A considerable portion of the town of Mary's Lick, Ky., was destroyed by fire this morning, involving a loss of about $52,000, principally on uninsured property.

LATEST RIVER NEWS.

BROWNSVILLE, December 20, 1876.

River 5 feet and falling. Weather clear, thermometer 20 at 7 P. M.

OIL CITY, December 20, 1876.

River 1 foot 7 inches, and stationary. Weather cloudy and cold.

CINCINNATI, December 20, 1876.

The river is unchanged and the ice remains firm. Weather cloudy and cold.

MEMPHIS, December 20, 1876.

The river fell 4 inches. Mercury thermometer 36°. Arrived—B. Church and John Lee, Leander. New Orleans. Departed—Garrett and Jorges, above; James Howard and Canandoit, New Orleans.

EVANSVILLE, December 20, 1876.

Chiefly cloudy and milder; mercury at 50; wind from the southeast. River 3 feet and falling, with a little thin ice running. Up—Maggie Smith, Down—Bob Lee and Hotspur. No boats.

CAIRO, December 20, 1876.

Navigation suspended. The Ste. Genevieve is still fast in the gorge a mile above Columbus river. River 1 foot 6 inches and falling. Weather cloudy; mercury 38.

VICKSBURG, December 20, 1876.

Weather cool and cloudy. River fell 9 inches; now at a stand with 7 feet 3 inches. No boats up. Fargoud aground at Lake Providence.

LOUISVILLE, December 20, 1876.

Weather cool and cloudy. River still frozen at points above and below Louisville.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20, 1876.

No arrivals or departures. Cloudy and cool.

LITTLE ROCK, December 20, 1876.

River 2 feet and stationary. Weather warm.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

"It is certainly the best of the American Magazines."—Express, Buffalo.

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January No. NOW READY.

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—By the Editor.

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D. M. JENKINS
20 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

TROUBLE IN BIG BONANZA.

The Partners at Loggerheads and Dissolution Probable.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 20.—It is reported on what is claimed to be reliable authority that Jno. W. Mackey, of Flood & O'Brien, will sever his connection with the firm early in January, and ally himself with the Bank of California, taking with him the control of the Consolidated Virginia Mine. The annual meeting of the Consolidated Virginia will be held January 15th. Both parties are obtaining proxies, and it is stated that James R. Keene, who left for the East this morning, is on a similar errand there. Rumor has been rife for some months of a disagreement among the members of the bonanza firm.

MEXICAN OUTRAGE.

An American Captured by Revolutionists—A Ransom Demanded for His Release.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—A dispatch from Fort Davis says the Mexican revolutionists have captured a Mr. Miller, an American banker at Chihuahua, and demanded eight thousand dollars in gold as a ransom for his release. Colonel Andrews, with a force of infantry, cavalry and artillery, has gone to the rescue. The revolutionists are reported four hundred strong, and have threatened to shoot Miller if they can not hold him. A fight is inevitable.

"OUT OF THE DEPTHS."

The Temperance Revival—The Interest Increasing—One Hundred and Seventy Sign the Pledge Yesterday—The Meetings to be Held in the Smithfield Street M. E. Church.

The temperance revival under the direction of Mr. Murphy has not as yet reached the climax; the interest still increases, and "the good work" goes bravely on. The noonday prayer meeting yesterday was more largely attended than any that have preceded it, and a deep interest was manifested. The meeting last evening was no exception to the previous meetings, either in point of interest or attendance. The house was full, and hundreds went away unable to obtain admittance in consequence of the vast crowd.

The meeting was opened as usual with singing and prayer, and reading the scriptural lesson. Mr. Murphy then delivered an eloquent appeal to his hearers to put their hearts in the work, and to go out into the highways and by ways—in the streets and in the saloons, and bring the drunkards to the meeting.

During his remarks an individual, evidently full of spirits—bad whisky—worked his way through the crowd to the alter when Mr. M., was standing, flourishing a large black bottle, the contents of which had doubtless been transferred from the bottle to the man, shook hands with Mr. Murphy, who desired him to surrender the bottle as a trophy of war. He agreed to signed the pledge and break the bottle, and the paper being produced, he put his name down and said he would throw the bottle in the street.

Capt. John McCully, of McKeesport, was the first to give his experience. He was a new convert to the cause, being only enlisted a few days since, but by the help of God, he would remain faithful.

George Miller was next called upon. He also was a new recruit, and had been saved through the prayers of his wife.

Mr. Kirkpatrick, a soldier in the good cause, related some sad experiences in his past life, the result of rum drinking.

Mr. Murphy then announced that after this evening the association would have to obtain another place of meeting, as the church would be required for other purposes.

Messrs. Wilt and Moran then made short addresses, after which Mr. Murphy announced that there would be a meeting of the ladies engaged in the temperance work on Friday afternoon at four o'clock, the place to be announced hereafter. He also stated that there would be an effort made by the committee, as suggested by the GAZETTE, to secure old City Hall in which to hold the meetings of the association.

Mr. Moorhead announced that Smithfield M. E. church was at the service of the association, and hereafter the noonday prayer meeting as well as the evening meeting will be held in that church.

The General is informed that it is with much difficulty the meetings are closed, and the crowd lingers in the building until the gas is being turned off. Many come as early as six o'clock and remain until ten o'clock and after.

Pennsylvania Female College Soiree Musicale.

The first concert of the year at the Pittsburgh Female College took place Tuesday evening in the college chapel. The entertainment, which was under the supervision of Prof. E. J. Berlery, director of the musical department, was an exceedingly enjoyable one. The selections were made with good taste from the works of Aubor, Costa, Bohm, Lozzi, Schubert, Weber, Krug, Lyeleon, Burgmuller, Meyerbeer, Chevert, Chopin, Rudolphsen Kafka, Mendelssohn, Cirillo and Schneider, thus affording a wide range for the display of the musical progress of the young ladies. They did remarkably well. Dr. Strong stated during the evening that the college is in a very flourishing condition. There is now a large percentage of increase over last year, and this will be still greater after the holidays.

The Desert of Sah

DAILY GAZETTE

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1876.

PETROLEUM at Antwerp 55(@60.

BONDS at Frankfort, new 5s, 101¼.

Gold closed in New York yesterday at 107¾.

THERE is a strong look of incendiarism about the repeated fires at Little Rock, Arkansas, where so great a destruction of property has occurred.

A BITTER feeling is developing at the East over the failure of the Continental Life Insurance Company. Fraud is charged in the most outspoken terms, against the officers and Directors, comprising in the list gentlemen who have stood high in business and official positions. There appears to be no relieving feature in the failure.

THE Washington correspondents report that Senator FRELINGHUYSEN, of New Jersey, will introduce a bill, recognizing the right of the House to challenge electoral votes, and that he will lead a bolt from the Republican position. We have no fear of this. Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN is not of the martyr stamp, and is a straight out Republican.

GENERAL CROOK, in common with other frontier army officials, has a very moderate opinion of the Sioux, and of SITTING BULL, their leader. He claims that they were the first to violate the Black Hills treaty, and that they are vengeful, cowardly, and generally speaking, savages of the worst sort. He has no tender sympathy with them.

"IS CHAMBERLAIN insane?" wildly inquires the New York *Herald*, in view of his rumored purpose to arrest HAMPTON for treason. It then proceeds to show that there can be no treason against a State, by the following lucid process of reasoning: "Treason against a State is an obsolete idea. To be sure, the States have laws defining and punishing treason, but they have so long been a dead letter that not one citizen in a thousand is aware of their existence. They are like a sword that has rusted so long in its scabbard that it cannot be drawn." Just what was JOHN BROWN hung for?

IT proves to be the case that there was a saving clause in the agreement whereby the railroad war was closed, which ought to soothe the wounded dignity of New York. Where articles brought to the seaboard are destined for shipment abroad, the price to any of four seaboard cities,—Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston,—are to be the same. It is only when the goods brought from the West stop at either of the above cities, being a part of its local traffic, that discriminations are to be made. We do not suppose that this will be at all consoling to New York, yet it is an element of compromise in the railroad arrangement.

THE chairman of the Maryland Republican Committee is a man of benevolent instincts, and practical sense. On being requested to order a salute of 185 guns over the election of HAYES, he said: "As the burning of powder cannot alter or vary the result of the election, I think the greatest tribute we can pay to R. B. HAYES is to devote the amount necessary in firing a salute of 185 guns in honor of his election to the suffering poor of our city. I therefore authorize you to ascertain what it will cost to fire the salute, and to send a check for that amount to the Treasurer of the Association for the Poor as a contribution from this committee." This seems to us to be particularly sensible.

THE defalcation in our city postoffice, which came to light yesterday, calls for the most energetic measures in searching out the offender, and the most vigorous steps to secure his punishment. We greatly regret that the offender should be a young man, of highly respectable family, and the crime he has committed will fall with crushing effect on them. His own character has hitherto been unblemished, and he has a family. But he has committed a serious crime, and the penalty must be enforced. We seriously doubted the wisdom of the leniency shown in a previous case; and while we did not doubt the purity of the motives of those who visited Washington to secure it, we did have serious doubts of the wisdom of their course. We will comment more fully on this case when we have all the facts.

THE rapid flow of gold to this country is exciting considerable remark. During the past three months the aggregate received amounts to $14,332,682, with $1,553,000 now on its way, additional. There have apparently been some unusual operations contributing to this very large importation. It is understood that bonds have been sold on account of the United States Government in London, to provide the means for buying silver; to what extent we are not aware; some report the amount as high as $8,000,000, others considerably below that sum. It is worthy of note that $4,900,000 of the above total has come to the local branches of Canadian banks. A considerable portion of this is probably the result of Canada loans recently negotiated in London, the installments on which from September to December amount to £1,431,620, or about $7,000,000, and which, under the conditions of the exchanges, have naturally gone through New York.

THE true spirit of the WADE HAMPTON movement has clearly developed itself, at last. M. C. BUTLER, the leader in the Hamburg massacre, has been elected by HAMPTON'S bogus Legislature, United States Senator for South Carolina. The outrageous character of this proceeding cannot be over-stated. When the policy of terrorism was first adopted, BUTLER led in the massacre of blacks at Hamburg, his assault on them being peculiarly heartless and unprovoked. Now, HAMPTON'S Legislature, paid and supported, it is declared, by TILDEN'S money, has elected him to the high office of Senator of the United States. Prior to the brutal massacre at Hamburg, he was not particularly known to prominence, as a politician in South Carolina, and but for that event, would not have been heard of as a candidate for United States Senator. Of course, he will never be admitted, but his election by HAMPTON'S adherents indicates the precise spirit of the TILDEN fight.

The developments of the Investigating Committees do not bring cheer to the hearts of the Democracy. In place of the evidence gathered turning to their advantage, confirm all the more strongly, the idea that the Republican showing has been short of rather than in excess of the truth. Where they get their own material to give evidence, it has the misfortune to prove entirely too much, and so discredits itself. Thus the colored Democrat, before the New Orleans committee, affirmed that his interests led him to vote with the Democrats, and that all the other negroes would do the same if they dared. Why "all the others" should not dare to vote as they pleased is not distinctly explained. He claims that some one else was shot a week or two after the election, and that the shot was meant for him. So his story ran on—the merest foolishness—self-contradicting and imaginative. In this same New Orleans are ELIZA PINKSTON and a negro man, both mangled by the bull-dozers. The Democratic committee gives them a wide berth. Their's is not the kind of evidence wanted.

THE GREAT TEMPERANCE WORK.

We have kept our readers advised from day to day of the extraordinary movement now going on in these two cities in the cause of temperance, under the lead of Mr. FRANCIS MURPHY, of Portland, Maine. He is an able and eloquent man, although an unlearned layman. He delivers no lectures, and rarely speaks more than five or ten minutes at a time, and the marvel is, as it was among the Philistines in the days of SAMSON, "Wherein does his great strength lie?" We have been looking into this thing, and we think we can answer the question. It is in his abounding, loving kindness, his brotherly love to all classes of men, the venders of strong drink, as well as those who have well-nigh destroyed themselves by its use. Like the Master in whose footsteps he has aimed to walk, and on whose grace he relies, he proclaims the gospel to the poor, and "the common people hear him gladly."

Up to this time nearly three thousand, most of whom were drinking men, have signed the pledge, and many of them, so far as human observation can go, have become sincere Christians, and are now zealously working to save others. MURPHY puts no faith whatever in mere good resolutions, however honest. All his trust is in the Saviour of sinners. Yesterday, at the noonday prayer meeting, he told his reformed friends in those deep, solemn tones, of which he is such a master, that without the grace of God they could not keep their pledge.

A great responsibility devolves upon the Christian people of this community. Here are thousands of men nobly struggling to rise to a better condition, many of whom are weak, many have no pleasant homes or safe places to which they can resort. All are exposed to temptation; so let us heed the solemn injunction of the infinitely wise and kind Master—"Strengthen thy brethren." And permit us to add that in this will these reformed men themselves find their greatest strength. We have read of men exposed to extreme cold, who, when one showed signs of succumbing, another would put forth all his efforts to encourage, strengthen and sustain his sinking friend, and in so doing gain new vigor himself and pass through the peril safely, where, but for his generous efforts, he too might have perished. So it is in this work.

We shall not now discuss any definite plan by which the good fruits of this great revival may be preserved and the work kept going forward; but we do know that such plans are in the minds of some benevolent men and women amongst us.

HEWITT AS A DIPLOMATIST.

We are gratified to notice that the chairman of the Democratic National Committee continues to illustrate his fitness for his high and honored place, by the development of new and rare qualities, such as he was not before suspected of possessing. It is said to be one of the traits of genius that it can develop resources adequate to every emergency in life, and achieve beneficent results, where those less endowed would fail. Before he attained, at one bound, the position of leader in the Democratic organization, he was a man of quiet, mercantile tastes, a partner in interest in an iron manufacturing firm, and a good, common place fellow, as the world goes. No one suspected him as possessed of the versatile, genius he now takes on, unless TILDEN did, and he plodded his way along as a common mortal. But once elevated to the leadership of the Democracy, what resources he has shown. Democratic bull-dozing was reduced to an exact science. The States of the Union were so many chess, and the Democratic platform was the board on which they were to be moved. The number of States, and those that were to constitute the number essential to TILDEN'S election, were accurately defined. The election of SAMMY was to be a matter of political science. No money was to be fooled away on unproductive regions, but the localities to be carried were accurately selected, and the necessary means and methods provided. New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Indiana, being already under Democratic control, were suitable centres for repeating. Certain of the Southern States were set apart for bull-dozing; and in some of these States particular bull-dozing points were selected. A vast deal of science did ABRAHAM show in all this. He was as precise as was our friend HAY, in his exact delineation of Florida frauds.

Then came the attempt to capture or frighten Returning Boards—a beautiful idea that was industriously given effect. Then the hurrah in Congress, and the bluster and threats outside. At last we have the intelligence that our genius essays a new role—that of a genial, Mephistophelian diplomat, seeking to extract from Republicans their hostility to TILDEN by the sweets of personal courtesy and beaming smiles! No more is he the stern warrior, urging his bull-dozers to ferocious deeds; no more the acute arithmetician figuring out impossible majorities; he even abandons the lion's roar, and is as gentle as a sucking dove. Wonderful ABRAHAM, how we admire thee! Thy diplomatic ways are worthy a RICHELIEU, and thy cause as glorious as those in which he was generally engaged! Pursue thy shrewd and ductile career, and at the end, tell us just how it prospered. Beginning with the application of this new policy to GRANT, and the effort to induce him to recognize WADE HAMPTON, please give us to know how all succeeding stages of that policy worked. If the outcome should happen to be HAYES' inauguration, we will congratulate ABRAHAM that it was the best possible.

THE DOUBLE STANDARD.

One of the misfortunes attending our political complications is the delay occasioned in the consideration of the silver coinage question in Congress, and particularly in the arrangement of a definite policy as to the relations of the several departments of commerce to each other. We have gold, silver, greenbacks and fractional currency. All these are now, more or less, in circulation, with their relations to each other but partially defined, and with the necessity upon us to promptly adjust those relations in a satisfactory manner. At present we propose to substitute silver for fractional currency, and put the latter out of existence. The House has passed a bill providing for the coinage of the trade dollar, and for its being a legal tender. We have an incomplete system, looking to the reduction of the greenback circulation to $300,000,000; and we have gold as the recognized standard of values. This partially adjusted condition of things contains several elements of danger. In the first place, the trade dollar and the old silver dollar are now of considerably greater value than the greenback, and will not circulate in competition with it, while the margin of difference between the gold value of fractional silver and the greenback is reduced to a fraction, which is rapidly disappearing. It is at most but a question of a few weeks when the fractional silver coin will exceed the greenback in value. On the 10th of December the price of fine silver in London was 56¾ pence per ounce, and a day or two since it was 57 pence. Trade dollars (420 grains) were sold the same day at 1 per cent. premium in California, and small silver at 6¾ per cent. discount. The return of silver to its ordinary proportionate value is therefore only a question of time. In the second place, fractional paper currency has been retired to the amount of $1,000,000, and has become exceedingly scarce; the amount of small silver authorized is only $40,000,000, but, of this, the most is dependent on the surrender of small paper, which does not seem to exist—at least $15,000,000 of that currency having been destroyed, and therefore lost. It is the experience that when any coin is worth even one-eighth of 1 per cent. more as bullion than it is as money, that moment it will disappear from view—be hoarded, or, as bullion, shipped. We have practically got rid of the small paper currency, and now silver has advanced so closely upon the value of greenbacks that there is immediate danger of the limited amount of silver disappearing from circulation.

The immediate question before us is, how are there dangers to be avoided? We answer, by fully and unequivocally adopting the double standard, and authorizing the free coinage of silver, in sufficient quantities, and without dangerous restrictions to meet the demand. Free coinage in the full sense does remove all restrictions whatever, so far as the placing of bullion in our mints and having it coined is concerned; but were the greenback declared and made equal to silver, by being made interchangeable, we would have little difficulty with the entire subject. We would be on the edge, and gradually merge into full specie payments without jar or shock. The BLAND bill, of itself, will have the effect of bringing about the old relation between the value of silver and gold. When a silver dollar weighing fifteen and a half times as much as the gold dollar will buy more than the gold dollar, then gold becomes the cheaper commodity, and the demand for it and the reduced demand for the silver, will promptly adjust the variation. So long as debts can be paid in either, the fall of one will increase the demand for it, and under that increased demand the equilibrium will be promptly restored. What is wanted is free coinage, with gold and silver coined in weights of fifteen and a half of the one to one of the other, and the values of the two must remain so close that the fluctuations of either can only be temporary. The world has always used both metals in its coinage, and it is impossible to displace either, unless by the united action of all nations. There is not gold enough to supply the wants of mankind, and silver is a necessity. As the two must be used, wisdom and sound policy dictate that all nations should agree upon a common standard of proportionate weight, whereby the silver shilling, franc, mark, dollar, and pound should weigh fifteen and a half times as much as the gold coin of the same denomination.

The fullest and fairest consideration of this subject is to be expected from the Silver Commission of the United States Senate, of which Senator JONES, of Nevada, is chairman. He has invited a French gentleman, M. HENRI CERUSSCHI, to appear before the Commission, and that gentleman is now in this country, for this purpose. He is a recognized authority in Europe on the subject, and favors the bi-metallic system. He claims that the "great event of modern finance is the law enacted by Germany in 1870 against silver. That law really means more than demonetizing silver; it aims to substitute gold exclusively for silver. This law has stopped the old demand for silver, and at the same time has thrown on the market all silver coined in Germany. This law is the sole cause of the fall in the value of silver bullion. Before the passage of this important law England was a mono-metallic gold country, France a bi-metallic gold and silver country, and Germany a mono-metallic silver country. It will be seen at once that France, with its laws allowing the coinage of both gold and silver as legal tender, held, as it were, the balance of power as to the value of coin in Europe. The coin Germany manufactured was of silver, and against her own interest and out of spite against France perhaps, she enacted a law demonetizing silver. She sees her error to-day, though her statesmen do not yet acknowledge it, but her scientists all declare that she has made an irreparable mistake." Making allowances for national feeling in the above, the fact remains that Germany has suffered financially since her war with France, and shrewd observers trace this largely to her course in demonetizing silver. Her large income of gold from France, however, is thought to have presented the temptation, and not her antagonism to France.

He proposes, as a general remedy for all existing troubles on the subject, an international commission, which shall provide for the uniform coinage of silver and gold, on a basis of 1 to 15, which, he claims, to be the only proportions which experience has taught us, can be regularly maintained. At the present, the several countries of the world are as much, or more embarrassed than are we. England, while a bi-metallic country, feels the fluctuations in the value of silver through her Indian possessions. Germany is tied up with her gold standard, and knows not how to extricate herself. France has the bi-metallic system, but is unable, by herself, to control the value of the metals. The South American States are practically prevented, by the present situation of the question, from purchasing in the markets of Europe. Thus he thinks the present a good time for the international arrangement of the entire question. We doubt whether this is necessary, so far as the interests of the United States are concerned, but as a matter of comity, need not be seriously objected to. We believe that we are more really the masters of the situation, on this question, than any nation in existence. Our mines of silver and gold, and our abundant resources, were all these properly regulated and controlled, are amply sufficient to meet this issue. We hope, therefore, that suitable legislation will be had, this session of Congress, to meet the demands of this question; and this irrespective of any promise of action on the part of the nations of Europe.

Alex. H. Stephens in Congress.

Mr. A. H. Stephens' first legislative act in the present Congress is described in a melo-dramatic way. A shrill voice was heard to say "Mr. Speaker!" and every one turned at once toward the black-eyed ghost of a man sitting so quietly buried in his heavy blue overcoat, with a silk hat of several winters perched rakishly upon his wise-looking head. Mr. Stephens moved his skeleton right hand, incased in a brown cotton glove, as he said: "I have a resolution which I desire to send up to the Clerk's desk—a resolution which I desire to have read and put upon its passage." Perhaps the Georgia ghost had evolved some new scheme for saving the country, and every one carefully listened as the Clerk began to read it. The Clerk read, and then every one smiled a sulky smile of disappointment it was a resolution declaring that Mr. John Chauncey should be paid $3.50 a day for performing the arduous task of bearing the American flag every day upon the House aisle. Chauncey's pay had been stopped on account of the exhaustion of the special appropriation; hence this resolution. It was passed. Said one member in a whisper to a friend, 'Can you doubt that the South is reconstructed when the ex-Vice-President of the Southern Confederacy applies here asking pay for bearing whose sole duty it is to propel on high the gay American flag where it can flaunt its gaudy face in the morning breeze?" Alexander H. Stephens gave a sigh of relief as the resolution passed. 'Dick' he called out in a testy whisper. A burly negro came from the cloak room and gathered up Stephens in his burly arms, carried him out to a light invalid chair, where two stout servants seized upon the Georgia ghost, placed him on a level with their shoulders, and bore him from the hall."

—The Chicago *Post* nominates General Grant for United States Senator from Illinois.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

—The Christmas salute—A mistletow bow.

—The frost has almost destroyed the Florida orange crop.

—Two popular preachers in the West are reformed convicts.

—The society in favor of hanging—stockings—has begun to agitate.

—Carl Rosa is rich, though an impressario. His wife left him $500,000.

—Columbia, S. C., boasts an educated duck which quacks for Hampton.

—The Washington *Nation* bull-dozes Noah Webster with "interviewee."

—General Hawley will resume the editorial chair of the Hartford *Courant*.

—General di Cesnola has abandoned research in Cyprus on account of ill health.

—Herbert Spencer has been obliged to abandon all work on account of ill health.

—"Our bald-headed Massachusetts Governor" is what they used to call Chamberlain.

—Calcutta makes 40,000,000 bags a year, half of which are sent to California wheat growers.

—The funeral of the Republic has been indefinitely postponed, owing to the obstinacy of the corpse.

—"Mr. Sankey's song, 'Hold the Fort,' has been arranged as a waltz for the piano. It is popular among those who hold the pianoforte."

—The *Army and Navy Journal* acknowledges the receipt of subscriptions for the widows of Custer's command aggregating $11,015.

—A preacher in Meadville has requested the deacons of his church to reduce his salary $100 per year, owing to the dullness of the times. Blessed are the considerate.

—It is noticeable that purchasers of holiday gifts this season are looking more towards the practical use of articles, and skipping in a large measure the fancy business.

—The grave of Governor Geary, of Pennsylvania, is in a Harrisburg cemetery, and is unmarked by monument or headstone. The grave of Gen. Rawlins is also unmarked.

—Cole Younger, the leader of the Missouri night-riders, who murdered the cashier of the Northfield Bank, amuses himself in the Faribault jail by reading "Josephus."

—"Brick" Pomeroy has just married his third wife, a proof-reader in the office of his paper. His second wife is a theatrical star, and his first wife has just taken her second husband.

—Fac-simile telegraphing is the latest Boston happy thought. A zinc plate receives the impression, and a pencil point reproduces the very form of the letters, words and sentences at the other end of the line.

—During the past nine Presidential elections, the two branches of Congress called upon to witness the count of the electoral vote, have been opposed to each other politically five times—in 1845, '49, '57, '61, and '73.

—Paris is one of the most heavily taxed cities in the world. It is stated that the average share per head of the national tax paid by the Parisians is $15, and in addition to this their municipal tax amounts to $12 per head. The interest on the debt alone is $8,400,000.

—The Rev. Phillips Brooks, Boston's pet clergyman, is of towering height and colossal proportions. He is always in excellent humor, and has a keen relish for a good joke. He is so rapid a speaker that no phonographer is able to report him verbatim.

—Colonel Robert Ingersoll has been a subject of prayer in a Christian conference at Peoria, Ill. Petitions were offered for his conversion, as is the case daily. He does nothing to hinder the work of the evangelists, and expresses respect for their motives.

—A man with a hand-cart recently ran into Bayard Taylor and scraped off a piece of the distinguished traveler's shin. Nobody recognized the hand of Providence in the accident until it was ascertained that the cart was loaded with copies of the new song: "What is Home Without a Mother-in-law?"

—The woman who does not like to have a gentleman give her his seat in a street-car has been found at last. She entered a Birmingham car Saturday morning and made this little speech: "No, sir! Don't rise. Move up on that side! Move up there! There's plenty of room, if you'll only move up! Move up! It won't hurt you a bit." There were eleven ladies on "that side," but they moved up and she sat down.

—The books of George Washington were recently sold by one of that name on account of his poverty. The descendants of Jefferson were extremely poor. So are those of John Hancock, whose house they were lately obliged to sell. Now we read that the daughter-in-law of Gen. Jackson is in a condition of financial distress, and desires to sell various valuable mementoes collected by her while an inmate of the White House. It is only recently that the public service has been found profitable, and however comfortable the fact may be to office-holders and their heirs, it is hardly pleasant to these whose notions of official purity are of the old-fashioned sort.

—An Amazon on skates can put a petter figure than an S. A group of lasses were skating merrily on a river near Omro, Wis., on Dec. 15, when a noisy, graceless scamp appeared upon the ice and began to annoy them in many ways. So persistent were his persecutions that the girls were resolving to take off their skates and go home, when the avenger glided from the opposite bank. It was only a girl—a coy, rosy, slender girl. She went up to the young scapegrace, and seizing him by the collar dumped him upon the ice. She handled him as she would a feather duster. She took off her dainty glove and cuffed his ears till he roared for help. She dragged him along the ice and rolled him into a snow bank. She also said something. She remarked that if he ever troubled them again there would be a coroner's inquest on the river.

—Since the Brooklyn disaster, the life of the theatrical manager must have been a burden to him. He has been badgered with all sorts of questions in regard to the safety of his theater; overwhelmed with preposterous suggestions and schemes for protection against fire; has had his establishment inspected by engineers, insurance people, city authorities, and parties who have taken advantage of some official position to constitute themselves a committee to "inspect" the pretty actresses at rehearsal and explore the mysteries behind the scenes. Added to this, is the fact, that business has fallen off by the temporary absence of people who, though they have attended threaters all their lives, have taken a scare which it will take time to efface. So when you see a managerial friend buttonholed by any serious old bore, kindly join the company and change the subject to the expediency of a horse railway on Columbus avenue.

The Independent Voter.

An independent voter was found quite early the morning after election, on Chester Park, by the police, in a condition that rendered it necessary to count him into the nearest station house, in order that the morning naps of the residents of the vicinity might be undisturbed.

"Hah for reform;—'rah for Prinzen Weeler."

"Come, come," said the police, "keep quiet there."

"Can do it, sir; we've got 'em, I tell you; 'rah for ci'zens movemen.'"

"What are you making this noise for, any way?"

"Makin' it fur Hayzen Prinz,—no, don' mean that, kos I'm independenza. 'Rah for in'pendent' ticket."

"Come stop this noise, or I'll haul you down to the station."

"Haul me down!—(steadying himself with difficulty against an area railing)—'fenny flag hauls down 'Merican man spot him on th' shoot. I'm 'Merican ci-i-zen (hic) inzepen't 'Merican ci-i-zen gur-r right give three cheers fur Tilorien, Wheeler 'y mean Hazenpuz."

How much further this independent citizen might have proceeded is not known, for, losing his balance, he pitched head first into a snow bank, and after being extricated by the policeman he remarked "let go an congrashlate success'l can'date, say soil rye wherever he is."

How Gen. Grant Gave the Order.

The Philadelphia correspondent of the *London Times*, after describing the closing ceremonies of the Centennial Exhibition, refers to President Grant's imperturbability. He says: "No one who watched him would have imagined that only an hour or so before he had been called on to meet a serious national urgency. He had just sent his order to Gen. Sherman, which has gone all over the world. I was discussing it with a distinguished foreigner and diplomat, who has been long in America, and ought to know the President as well as most men, and he declared that it was without doubt the production of Mr. Secretary Fish. Next evening I happened to meet Gen. Hawley, who told me that he was there when, just before the meeting in Judges' Hall, the President got the news which called forth the order, and without a moment's reflection, and without recourse to any other confidential adviser than that nearest, dearest, and discreetest of his counselors and inseparable companion, his cigar, the President then and there wrote off the order as coolly and promptly as he might have written an order for his carriage."

MYSTERY ABOUT THE HOUSE.

The Perplexities of the Good Housewife About This Time.

At this season of the year the average American housewife becomes as mysterious as a hen with a nest hid in the currant bushes. Her absences from home are frequent, and she avoids giving an account of them. Her air is as preoccupied and her manner as full of importance as if she were a Cabinet Minister with a State secret. She is apt to neglect trifling household duties, and listen to reproof with the benign and kindly smile of one who is above petty troubles. She is preparing Christmas presents, and the burning of a beefsteak is a matter of no moment. It is useless for the man of the house to remonstrate; it is idle for him to grumble. Censure rebounds from her like rain from the wings of an angel caught in a terrestrial storm. Nothing will disturb her seraphic mood until the January thaw. As woman at the house-cleaning time of the year is a fury, so woman at the approach of the holidays is a saint. And as no man may withstand her when she rages about the house in the melancholy days, with a cloud of dust around her like that which an ancient war chariot gathered as it went, her skirts tucked up as a Roman girt his garments for a street brawl, her hair tied away under a handkerchief, and the besom of destruction in her hand—

"Her broom the sceptre all who meet obey,"

—so no man may attack her with impunity in the milder madness of the Chrismas season, when her motions are quiet and subdued, and the mild light of happiness glows in her eye. In her role of Martha, solicitous about house cleaning, and in her role of Mary, who hath chosen a better part, she is alike incomprehensible to the sterner sex, and every sensible husband soon learns to look upon his wife at such times as one whose ways are not his ways, a creature to be humored, like a pet, when her eye is in a fine frenzy rolling. The Christmas mania might, indeed, prove a very pleasant episode in family life, notwithstanding the amount of money which it costs, were it not for one peculiarity in this madness. We allude to its tendency to manifest and satisfy itself in the fabrication of slippers. Lovely woman seems to be urged on by a sweet impulse to decorate her spouse, brother, or lover with her own handiwork, and there appears to be no other relief for the artistic nerve of her affection, save slippers. Like a painter through whose work the influence of a single model is ever evident, the gentler sex still fashion slippers and make them serve for every relation of life and its amenities. Slippers of canvas, slippers of morocco, slippers of velvet, slippers of carpeting, slippers embroidered with roses, slippers adorned with butterflies, slippers decked with rosettes, slippers as innumerable as the wintry snowflakes teach us the various minds of women. Does the daughter desire to show due reverence to her father? She gives him a pair of slippers. Does the wife wish to pledge eternal conjugal fidelity? What symbol for affection can she find more potent than slippers? Is the maiden anxious to give shy expression to her fondness for a lover? How can the tender confession be so delicately conveyed as in a pair of slippers? Does the solemn matron think it appropriate to express to her minister her approval of his sound doctrinal methods and fervid eloquence? What eulogy is so expressive as the gift of a pair of slippers? The man with many female relatives is helpless at such a time, and can only wish that he had as many feet as Briareus had hands, so that he might wear all his slippers at once; or that women would devise some little variety of method in spending his money. But he might as well fight against the stars in their courses, or against a setting hen, or a perverse mule, as urge objections to a woman intent on the manufacture of slippers. Never but once was this propensity of the sex toward slippers turned to good account, and therefore baffled. The admirers of the celebrated Jesuit preacher embroidered slippers for him by the thousand, and sent them as presents, and as fast as he received them they were confiscated to the common stock of the order. It is said that a great part of the society was comfortably supplied before the fair manufacturers discovered how their gifts were diverted to alien feet.

Scrap Book Parties.

But in such *on dits* of the old time I must not forget the scrap book party, of which I wanted to say another word. By the time this letter gets fairly into print the second of the jolliest parties I know anything about will have come off. And it all sprang from an accident, so to speak—from a little gathering where a company of various minds essayed to do the heavy intellectual, as is the fashion nowadays, by reading Mill and Spencer, and the like. But, owing to the variety of the minds, this food would not go down, and the meeting languished, until some one picked up a scrap book and read something therefrom. At once every face was interested, and before the gathering broke up there was a sort of scrap book club party organized, where every fortnight some one of the company should bring his or her scrap book and read selections. It turned out, by the way, that every one of the twenty or thirty persons were in possession of a scrap book, and as reading for entertainment is looked for for some time to come. On the first regular meeting the introduction of Aldrich in the T. Baby Aldrich period brought out a promise of more of the old days in meetings to follow. What the scrap book furore will eventually turn into I can't say, but at present it is not only amusing, but is quickening to the intellect as a heavier weighted party is intent, from some of our scraps we have already had to digest or speculate upon wise sayings from the Talmud and the Koran. And we take it all the livelier that we jump from "Babie Bell" and such airy work to these knotty problems.—*Nora Perry's Boston Letter.*

QUICK RELIEF FROM CROUP is afforded by DR. JAYNE'S Expectorant, the old family stand-by for Coughs and Colds, Pulmonary and Bronchial Affections.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE,
PITTSBURGH.
Board of Managers—George A. Berry, President, John Scott, Jas. Park, 2d, Vice Presidents, A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, P. Rahm, G. Follansbee, Robert O. Schmertz.
Secretary and Treasurer—CHAS. G. MILNOR.
Solicitor—JOHN H. BAILEY.

MY WIFE
insists on using only B. T. Babbitt's Best Soap.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS
ALLCOCK'S
POROUS PLASTERS.
☞Ask for ALLCOCK'S, and obtain them and so avoid miserable IMITATIONS.
B. BRANDRETH, Pres't,
113-d48 Office, 294 Canal St., New York.

POLITICAL.

PITTSBURGH.

FOR CITY TREASURER,
J. F. DENNISTON,
TWENTIETH WARD, PITTSBURGH.
Subject to the decision of the Republican Primary Election.

FOR CITY TREASURER,
THOS. S. MITCHELL,
Subject to the decision of the City Republican Convention.

FOR MAYOR,
S. J. WAINWRIGHT,
Subject to the Republican City Convention.

FOR MAYOR,
JARED M. BRUSH.
Subject to the decision of the City Republican Convention.

FOR CITY CONTROLLER,
R. M. SNODGRASS.
Subject to the decision of the City Republican Convention.

FOR CITY TREASURER,
R. B. BROWN,
Subject to the decision of the City Republican Convention.

FOR CITY TREASURER,
SAMUEL KILGORE,
Subject to the decision of the City Republican Convention.

ALLEGHENY.

FOR MAYOR,
WALTON WOOLSEY,
ELEVENTH WARD, ALLEGHENY.
Subject to the decision of the Republican Primary Election.

FOR MAYOR,
W. C. COOKE,
FIFTH WARD, ALLEGHENY,
Will be a candidate before the Republicans of Allegheny for the nomination of Mayor.

FOR MAYOR,
THOS. MEGRAW.
FIFTH WARD, ALLEGHENY,
Subject to the decision of the Republican Primary Meeting. 154

DRY GOODS, TRIMMINGS. DRY GOODS, TRIMMINGS. DRY GOODS, TRIMMINGS.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1876.

NEW CHRISTMAS GOODS
—AT—
WILLIAM SEMPLE'S, NOS. 165, 167 AND 169 FEDERAL ST., ALLEGHENY, PA.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

From present indications it will be an utter impossibility, even with our increased force to meet the wants of our patrons on Saturday of this week, and that over-crowding may in a manner be lessened, our store will be open on THURSDAY AND FRIDAY EVENINGS additional to our regular Saturday evening until nine o'clock.

GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
A most suitable gift for a Christmas pre ent, and which our stock offers unsurpassed attractions, would be a dress pattern of any material.
DRESS SILKS.
Our Silk Department is at it has been during the season, full, fresh and complete, and at prices lower nowhere in the United States.
At 85, 90 and 95c, good heavy Black Dress Silks.
At $1 and $1.25, extra heavy Gros Grain Black Silks.
At $1.37½, very superior Gros Grain Black Silks.
At $1.50 to $4.50, special good value in Gros Grain and "Hand-spun" Black Dress Silks.
At $1, Seal and assorted Brown Dress Silks.
At $1.25 to $2.50, extra value in choicest shades Colored Silks, much under value.
While our line of Mourning and Fancy Dress Silks, including Brocade Silks, is specially attractive in variety and prices.
At 25 to 50c, extra good Black and Colored Cashmeres.
At 60 and 62½c, extra bargain in Colored Merinos.
Having made a large and most advantageous purchase of these goods, the value offered cannot be excelled.
At 10 and 12½c, choice seasonable Dress Goods.
At 12½, Knickerbocker Suitings, worth 25c.
At 18½c, all-wool Striped Oversuitings.
At 18½ to 25c, Fine Colored Cashmeres.
At 20c, newest shades in Basket Cloth Goods.
At 25c to $1.50, beautiful line of latest effects in Dress Goods, of all leaders and in all shades, suitable for promenade and interior wear, at the lowest prices.
At 12½ and 15c, best makes and styles Tycoon Repps.
Full and very complete stock of Medium and Deep Mourning Goods.
AT LOWEST PRICES.

SUITABLE PRESENTS!!!
A most substantial gift for a Christmas present, of which we have a very full and complete assortment, would be a Sacque or Shawl, &c.
NEW SACQUES.
Our line of Ladies' Sacques and Cloaks being especially complete at present and at such low prices, offers inducements to purchasers better than ever.
At $1, Ladies' all-Wool Grey Sacques.
At $2, Ladies' Beaver Cloth Sacques.
At $3, Ladies' Rough Cloth Sacques.
At $5 and $6, Ladies' Matalasse Sacques, bought very low and worth $10 and $12.
NEW CLOAKS.
Our Sacques and Cloaks are all latest styles, extra length and superior in make to many others.
Velvet and Silk Sacques at low prices.
A special bargain is offered in a few Real Sealskin Sacques, all latest style and long shape.
NEW FURS.
A large and very complete assortment of all the various kinds of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Furs, offered at extremely low prices.
A new and choice variety of New Shawls, of the most fashionable styles at very low prices.
UNDERWEAR.
Ladies', Misses' and Children's Merino and Scarlet all-Wool Underwear.
Infants' outfits of all kinds.
Ladies', Misses' and Children's Skirts, in Balmoral, Felt, Cloth, Scarlet and Alpaca, and a full and large variety of Muslin Underwear.
AT POPULAR PRICES.

HOLIDAY ATTRACTIONS!
A most useful gift for a Christmas present, of which our stock embraces all grades, would be a pair of Blankets or Woolen Goods of any kind.
BED COMFORTS.
At $1.20, good heavy Bed Comforts.
At $1.35, very heavy Bed Comforts, our own make.
At $1.60, extra heavy Calico Comforts.
BLANKETS.
At $1.20 upwards, heavy Brown Blankets.
At $2.25, 1¼ White Wool Blankets.
At $4.50 1¾ White Wool Country Blankets.
At $7.50, 5 lb. heavy German Coverlets.
At $1.25 up, extra good Horse Blankets.
At $3.00 up, full size Husk Mattresses.
FLANNELS, &C.
Flannels of all kinds, Waterproof Cloths, Sacquing Cloths, Goods for Men's Wear, &c., offered at very lowest prices and superior values.
Gents', Youths' and Boys' Ready-made Clothing for winter. Overcoats, &c., cut and made in best manner and latest styles.
Boots, Shoes, Gaiters and Slippers, for Ladies, Misses, Children and Gents. Gents' Morocco and Fancy Sewed Slippers, at much less than usual prices for same.
Ladies' Suits and Costumes, Overdresses and Polonaises in materials of Alpaca, Poplin, Cashmere, Brocades, Merinos, Black and Colored Silks.
Special attention given to Mourning Outfits, and suits to order at short notice, same being delivered within a few hours after measure.
AT ATTRACTIVE PRICES.

Christmas for the Children.
Little gifts for Christmas presents, of which we offer a most attractive stock in Fancy Articles, Toys, Notions, &c., at very lowest prices.
TOYS! TOYS!
A full and complete stock of Toys of every description, as well as the more useful and substantial Toys, Dolls, Wooden Toys, Books, &c., we have now in stock and offer all at much less than usual prices.
LINEN SETTS, &C.
Ladies' Plain, Fancy and Embroidered Linen Setts of Collars and Cuffs.
Plain, Hemmedstitched, Fancy Bordered, Embroidered and Initial Handkerchiefs, Lace Handkerchiefs, &c.
Beautiful line Fancy Boxes for Handkerchiefs, Cuffs, &c.
New Novelties in Neck Ruchings and Neckwear of all kinds.
FANCY GOODS.
Lace Tidies and Toilet Sets in all the latest novelties.
A few Zephyr Wool Tidies at one half their real value.
Full and very complete lines of Gents' Furnishing Goods and Fancy Articles at prices lower than usual.
A beautiful assortment of China, Glass and

FINANCIAL.

...IOE AND LEATHER BANK.

Cor: Diamond and Wood Streets,

...rmania Bank Building

PITTSBURGH, PA

...PITAL, ... $200,000

...R. DAVIDSON, President.
...HN D. FRASER, Cashier.

...posits received and Interest allowed on Time ...osits. Particular attention given to collections ... proceeds promptly remitted.

...AILY GAZETTE.

FINANCIAL.

...test Advices Concerning Money and Stock Matters.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, }
THURSDAY, December 21, 1876. }

We are steadily drifting into the Christ...s holidays, with nothing to change the ...neral current of events in banking cir...s. Money is plentiful, the demand fair, ...d rates easy. Business is feeling the ...liday improvement, and this will last ...e balance of the week. The purchases, ...us far, have not been as liberal as in or...nary times, but are tolerably fair.

THE RISE IN SILVER.

The recent rise is remarkable evidence ... the wisdom of the silver advocates. ...ey maintained that the fall was the re...lt of panic, and that the extreme depres...n would lead to an increased demand ...hich would nearly if not quite cure the ...il. The enlarged demand came from two ...urces—British India and the United ...tates. In the former country, the abnor...al decline in silver led to greatly enlarged ...ports and diminished exports, just as in ...e United States during the civil war the ...gher premium on gold encouraged ...ports and discouraged imports. To ...y for the heavy exports from India, or ...e so much of them as could not be offset ...y imports, silver had to be remitted from ...ondon, and this tended to advance the ...rice. Then the operations of the Ameri...an Government in substituting silver for ...ractional currency had an important in...uence upon the market, which was ...eightened by the discussion of proposi...ons for increasing the legal tender limit ...f silver money, by the appointment of the ...ilver commission, &c., all going to show ...hat the double standard is rapidly gaining ...dherents in this country. But the most ...otent influence in the direction of the ...ise in silver has been the diffusion of a ...ridespread opinion that the previous decline ...as in great measure the result of sheer ...anic—that the normal supply of the ...etal is really less than was then supposed ...nd the normal demand greater. The ...ong, interesting letters from San Fran...isco to the London *Times*, written by a ...emarkably intelligent observer, have had ...much to do with this change in opinion. ...One of the important facts established by ...him is that in previous estimates the total ...production of the Comstock Lode is given ...as silver, whereas but little more than ...half is silver and the remainder gold. ...This makes a difference of some $8,000,000 ...per annum in all calculations.

IMPORTANT INSURANCE DECISION.

An unusually important insurance decision has been rendered by the United States Circuit Court of Indiana, the effect of which, if sustained, will be to deprive of force many State laws regulating the business of foreign insurance companies. The law of Indiana forbids foreign companies having agencies and doing business in that State, except after compliance with certain provisions therein named; but the defendant company, an Illinois corporation, issued a large number of policies in Indiana without compliance therewith. The company becoming insolvent, the assignee sought to enforce payment of the premium notes, which was resisted on the ground that the company was forbidden by the State from doing business in that State. But the court held that inasmuch as the agent in Indiana merely received the application for insurance and forwarded it to Freeport, Ill., at which place the company forwarded the policy direct to the applicant, the contract was an Illinois contract, and consequently that Indiana laws could not apply to it. As to its enforcement in Indiana the court held that the contract stood on the same ground as any other, valid by the law of the place where it was made, and was enforcible by the comity of the States. Some five or six hundred suits depend upon the final determination of this case, which has been appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

THE BLAND SILVER BILL.

We have been frequently asked about the Bland Silver bill. This bill is a simple one, providing that there shall be, from time to time, coined at the mints of the United States, silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains of standard silver to the dollar, as provided for in the act of January 18, 1837; and that said dollar shall be a legal tender for all debts, public and private, except where payment of gold coins is required by law. It is thought that it will not pass the Senate, and if it does, the opponents of the measure predict a veto—about which there is considerable reason for doubt, when we remember the President's intimacy with Senator Jones.

NATIONAL BANKING SYSTEM.

The Comptroller of the Currency holds that the national banking system in this country is superior to any system ever established before in the United States, and that it equals in efficiency and strength the principal systems of banking established in Europe. With the single addition of making the currency redeemable in coin on demand the same has been again and again uttered in these columns.

Robinson Bros., Brokers, No. 78 Fourth avenue, furnish the following quotations of bonds and stocks from the latest advices by telegraph:

Gold	107¾	5-20's 1868-coupon	117¾
U. S. 6's 1881, coup	117¾	10-40's	113¾
" 1865	109¾	Currency 6's	121
" 1865 new	112¾	New 5 per cents	111¾
5-20's 1867	112¾	10-40's coupons	112¾

RAILWAYS.

N.Y. Central	104½	Ohio & Mississippi	6½
Erie	9¾	Union Pacific	56
L. S.	87¾	Toledo & Wabash	4¾
C. C. & I. C.	73	Hariem	136½
St. Paul	49½	Adams Express	101
Do. Pref	84	American Express	55¼
Lake Shore	59½	U. S. Express	52½
Do. Central	30¼	W. Fargo & Co. Ex	80¾
North-western com	36¾	Quicksilver	13¾
Do. Pref	56¾	Fort Wayne	100
Rock Island	93¼	Hannibal & St. Jo	12¾
Clevo. & Pittsb	89¾	Panama	130
Pacific Mail	28¾	Iron Mountain	—
Western Union Tel	72	N. J. Central	—
Delaware, L. & W.	72		

Robinson Bros furnish the following quotations of active stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board.,

P. R. R.	57⅜	Cen. Trans(S)	40
Reading (S)	20¾	Empire do. (B)	50
U. Cos. of N. J. (B)	138½	Q. C. & P. (B)	78
Cat Creek (B)	8¾	P. C. & St. L'T'R(B)	84
Leh. Valley (B)	49	N. Pacific bonds (A	14

NEW YORK, December 20, 1876.

Money was active at 5@7, until near the close, when 2½ was the rate; prime mercantile paper 5@7. The customs receipts were $156,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $82,000. The clearings were $22,000,000. Sterling was firm at 482¼@484. Gold opened at 107¾, declined to 107¼, and closed at 107⅜. The carrying rates were 4 to 5. Silver $1,21@1.21½ per ounce. Governments were strong. Railroad bonds were dull and generally firm. State securities were quiet. The market was strong early in the day; prices advanced 1-4 to 1 per cent., but the afternoon a portion of the improvement was lost. Lake Shore, Michigan Central and Pacific Mail were the most active stocks. Pacific Mail advanced to 29¾, and reacted 1@1 per cent. In final sales Ohio rose from 5½ to 6¾, closing at 6¾. Western Union sold at the close at 71@72, one div. of 1 per cent. Mobile Central fell off to 68½, and C. C. C. & I. to 40. Erie declined from 9¾ to 8 3-4, and recovered to 9¼. Northwest and St. Paul shares declined ¼ to 3-4 per cent. New York Central and Rock Island were firm. Coal stocks were strong. The transactions were 119,000 shares, of which 17,000 were Pacific Mail, 9,000 Western Union, 6,000 St. Pauls, 5,000 Erie, 20,000 Lake Shore, 5,000 Ohios, 2,000 Wabash, 25,000 Michigan Central, and 4,400 Lackawanna.

Governments.—United States Coupons 1881, 117½; 5 20s '65, 109½; do. '65 new, 112¾; do. '67, 115½; do. '68, 117½; new 5s, 111½; new 4½s, 108½; 10-40s, 112½; do. coupons, 112¾; currency 6s, 121½.

State Bonds.—Tennessee old, 41; do. new, 49½; Virginia new, 29; do. new, 30; Missouri 6s, 107 3-4.

Stocks.—Western Union Telegraph Company, 72, ex div.; Quicksilver, 13; do preferred, 20; Pacific Mail, 29½; Mariposa, 7½; do preferred, 7½; Adams Express, 101; Wells, Fargo & Company's Express, 88; American Express, 55; United States Express, 53½; New York Central, 104½; Erie, 9½; do. preferred, 17½; Harlem, 136; do. preferred, 133; Michigan Central, 46½; Panama, 125; Union Pacific, 56¾, ex div.; Lake Shore, 59½; Illinois Central, 68; Cleveland & Pittsburgh, 89½; Northwestern common, 36½; do preferred, 56½; C. C. & I., 39½; New Jersey Central, 94; Rock Island, 93¼; St. Paul, 49½; do. preferred, 83; Toledo & Wabash, 4½; do. preferred, 5; Fort Wayne, 100½; Terre Haute, 3; do. prefered, 15; Chicago & Alton, 99; do. preferred, 108; Ohio & Mississippi, 6½; Delaware & Lackawanna, 70½; Atlantic & Pacific Telegraph Company, 14½; Atlantic & Pacific preferred, 28; Missouri Pacific, 3; Indiana Central, 2; Burlington & Quincy, 144; Hannibal & St. Joseph, 13½; Central Pacific, 109; Union Pacific, 105¾; Union Pacific sinking fund, 91 3-4; Union Pacific land grant, 100.

LONDON, December 20, — Silver 56¾d. Consols, 94 1-16; 5-20s of '65, 104½; do. '67, 107¾; 10-40s, 106½; New York Central, 102; Erie, 9¾; do. preferred, 18.

PARIS, December 20.—Rentes, 104f 95c.

FRANKFORT, December 20.—U. S. new 5s, 101¾.

LONDON, December 20.—The steamer Adriatic, which sails for New York tomorrow, takes $250,000 in specie.

COMMERCIAL.

Condition of the Markets at Home and Abroad.

PITTSBURGH MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, }
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 20, 1876. }

The season for activity in the distribution of goods has gone by, and the general markets therefore are quiet, with no important change to note in values. What little business there is going forward is simply to keep up an assortments, buyers showing no disposition to anticipate future wants.

APPLES—Sales in a regular jobbing way at $1a $1.50 per bbl, for fair to choice fruit.

APPLE-BUTTER—Dull; quoted at 3a4½c ₱ gallon in kegs, and 4a5c in small packages.

BUTTER—Dealers continue to report a very fair demand for prime table Butter, but that the common and medium grades are very dull, and not being wanted, and have to move at low prices. We continue to quote prime to choice rolls at 23a25c.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—3¼a4 cents.

BEANS—In fair demand and the market is steady at $1.75 per bushel to the wholesale trade, and $2 in a small way.

BROOM CORN—Hurl, 6a6½c; choice brush that will work, 5a5½; choice covers 4¾a5c; choice bending and covers, 4¾; inferior and mixed, 4a 4¾; crooked, 2¾a3, as to color and quality.

CRANBERRIES—Selling at $8a10 per bbl.

CIDER—Very dull, and while the receipts recently have been small, the supply is fully equal to the demand; quotable at $4a5 ₱ bbl, barrels included.

CHEESE—Continues quiet and unchanged. Prime Ohio Factory is still quoted at 14a14½ to the wholesale trade, and 15a15½c in a job way.

DRIED FRUITS—The market for all kinds of dried fruit, both foreign and domestic, dull; dealers generally in Pittsburgh reports that they are scarcely doing enough to establish prices.

DRESSED HOGS—Receipts as yet small, but there is not much inquiry, and prices remain unchanged. 6¾a7c.

DRIED PEAS—The new crop of Canada green in good demand at $1.50 ₱ bu in round lots, and $1.75 in a jobbing way.

EGGS—The supply of fresh continues light, scarcely equal to the demand, and prices are well maintained, 27a28. Pickled in good supply and dull but unchanged; 20a22c.

FLOUR—We have to report a continued firm market, with no change, but prices remain as last quoted Good standard brands of either winter or spring, $6,75a7; ambers, $7,25a7.50; patents and fancy white wheat, $8a9. Rye Flour, $4.50a5. Both the Chicago and New York markets were reported firmer yesterday.

GROCERIES—Coffee continues very firm, and within the past few days there has been quite an advance at the seaboard markets. The statistical position continues favorable to importers; but for the very light demand, prices would no doubt be considerably higher than they are. An attempt has been made by refiners to put up prices of refined Sugars again, but it does not appear to have been successful. Refiners claim that current rates are unremunerative, and finding it up hill work to establish an advance on refined goods they will doubtless next try to obtain a reduction in the cost of raw sugar. There is a fair demand for new crop N. O. Molasses but no recent change in prices, will be found annexed.

SUGARS.			
Cut Loaf	13¾	Standard A	11¾
Crushed	13¾a	Granulated	11¾a
Powdered	13 a	Standard Ex. C.	11¾
		N. O.	9¾a10¼

COFFEES.			
Green.		Roasted.	
Choice	25	Best	27a
Prime	24	Second Grade	25a
Fair	22	Third Grade	24
Ordinary	20	Low	20

Loose half a cent less.

SYRUPS.			
Choice	60	Fair	50
Prime	55	Low	45

MOLASSES.	
Choice new crop N. O.	65a65c
Prime new crop N. O	58a60c
Fair new crop N. O	55a57c

GRAIN—There is a continued active milling demand for Wheat, and sellers have no difficulty in realizing full prices; we continue to quote fair to prime Penna. and Ohio red at $1,35a1,40; do. amber and white, $1,40a1,45. The Chicago market continues active and firm, notwithstanding the recent advance in freights. The Oat market is steady and fairly active; mixed, 38a39; white, 40a41—dealers generally report that it is difficult to obtain the outside figure, 41. Ear Corn is very scarce and in demand, but unchanged; 55a56c on 2...ck. Shelled is in good supply, but there is no apparent disposition to ...much inquiry for it; new may be quoted at 35a36c and 36a36c for old, as to quality. Rye is in fair demand but unchanged; sales at 75c. Barley continues very dull.

GAME—Is reported dull and the market is well stocked. Venison-Saddles, 14a15c ₱ lb; do. Hams, 13a14c; Whole Deer, 8a10c; Prairie Chickens, $4a6 per doz; Pheasants, $1.75a2; Quail, $1 50a1 75 per dozen; Rabbits, 75a$1.25; Squirrels, 75a$1; Wild Ducks, $1a4; Wild Turkeys, $1a1.50 each.

HAY—The market continues quiet and unchanged. Loose selling at $12a16 per ton from country wagons; baled, on wharf and track, $12a15, as to quality and condition.

MILL FEED—Bran, $12.50a13 per ton; Seconds Shorts and Shipstuffs, $14a16; Chopped Feed, $18a21; Middlings, $20a22.

OILS—Procter & Gamble's double Extra lard oil, 98a99c; W. Alexander & Co.'s extra, 85a87c; No. 1, yellow do, 65a68. Carbon very firm at the recent advance; 27c to the wholesale trade and 28c more in a small way.

ONIONS—In fair demand, but quiet and unchanged; $1,50a2 ₱ bbl.

POULTRY—Dressed Chickens, 10a12c ₱ lb; do. Turkeys, 12a14; do Ducks, 11a13; do Geese, 8a9. Live Chickens, 40a50c ₱ pair; do. Turkeys 75a$1 each.

POTATOES—Selling, in a jobbing way from store, at $1.15a1.25 ₱ bushel, the outside figure for choice Peach Blows.

PROVISIONS—The market is firmer, but trade here continues quiet, as it always is at this particular time. A Chicago paper (of Tuesday) referring to that market, says: The work of packing is veering round more decidedly towards mess pork, as is shown by the strength in cooperage. The demand for meats is falling off, and some operators think that the shipments will be comparatively light, now that freight rates are higher. The packers are making mess pork and selling it for February at prices which pay them a fair profit, as they can carry it in their own establishments at very little cost beyond interest on the money invested.

Hams—Ex S C ₱ lb	13	Lard, prime leaf, tcs	11
Shoulders Ex. S. C.	9¾	Do. Hf bbls	11¾
S'fast Bacon S. C.	13	Do. pkts	12
Dried beef Ex. S. C.	13	Do. 3 ₱ caddies	14
Beef Tongues S. C. per doz	$4¾	Do. 5 ₱ do	12¾
Rump Shoulders	7¾	Do. 3 ₱ pails	14
Short Rib Sides	9¾	Do. 6 ₱ do	13¾
Clear Sides	9¾	Pigs feet (half bbls)	4 75
Mess Pork ₱ bbl	$18,00	Do. (kegs)	2 40
Short Cut do	18,00	Ham Sausage	9¾

RAGS—Steady at 2¼c ₱ lb for good country mixed.

SUMAC—4½c.

SEEDS—There is little or no movement in this market, and is the absence of sales we omit quotations.

TALLOW—Is easier; city quoted at 8¾c per lb; country, 7¾c.

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, }
WEDNESDAY, December 20, 1876. }

ARRIVALS.

Following shows the aggregate receipts for the week as well as those of preceding week also:

	This week.	Last week.
Cattle	320 cars.	414 cars.
Hogs	204 "	203 "
Sheep	73 "	50 "
	—	—
Total	597 "	667 "

Briggs, Dock & Drum, Commission Merchants for the sale of live stock, at the East Liberty Stock Yards, report the markets as follows:

CATTLE.

Of the 320 cars reported for the past week, 159 cars were through and 161 cars local against 229 cars of through, and 185 cars of local preceding week. Sales, 2,640 head; last week, 2,772 head.

With a light supply and rather more favorable advices from the east, trade has been more active this week, and all grades of fat cattle brought an improvement of 12½a25c ₱ cwt; it is true, the same rule did not buy very freely, but with light offerings, especially of the character in question, and the supply unequal to the demand, sellers did not have much difficulty in obtaining the advance to which reference has been made. Stockers were draggy, as they usually are at this particular time, and the inquiry for feeding cattle was comparatively light, hence those grades did not bring any better prices than last week. Christmas cattle quotable at 5¾a6¾c. Three cars of prime 1,400 Southern Ohios brought 5.80. Prices may be fairly quoted as follows:

Extra 1,450a1,500 steers	5,40a5.60
Prime 1,300a1,400 steers	5,00a5,25
Good 1,100a1,150 steers	4,25a4.75
Stockers 700a800 lbs	2,75a3,50
Bulls, Cows and Scalawags	2,75a3,25

SHEEP.

The offerings, as will be seen, were considerably in excess of those of last week, and with a diminished demand the market was conceded to have been the worst we have had for two years, especially for common and medium stock, of which there were entirely too many on sale. However, as there are still a good many remaining unsold and buyers appear to have bought all they wanted, there is not much prospect for any improvement during the remainder of the week. As compared with last week, prices have declined 25a35c ₱ cwt. Quotations may be given as follows:

Extra 110a120 lbs	4,35a4,75
Extra 90a100 lbs	4,25a4,50
Prime 85a90 lbs	3,75a4,00
Good 75a80 lbs	3,00a3,50
Common 70a75 lbs	2,50a2,75

HOGS

The run, as compared with the preceding week, shows an increase of 1 car, and with a supply just about equal to the demand prices have not fluctuated much. Light weights, better known as Yorkers, declined 10a12½ ₱ cwt to-day in consequence of the arrivals last night having been larger than usual or expected, but heavy weights held their own. The weather continues very favorable for packing, and as packers in the west continue to buy freely, prices are ruling higher than was expected a month ago, and taking cost of transportation, feed bills and commissions into consideration, hogs are bringing fully as much, if not more, in Chicago than can be obtained here. We quote as follows:

Philadelphia Hogs	5,90a6,10
Yorkers	5,60a5,75
Roughs	4,75a5,25

Live Stock.

All drafts must be attached to the original shipping bill, and in no case drawn for more than two-thirds of stock. Please telegraph amount of draft and car Nos.

J. B. Sedwick is our solicitor at Indianapolis, Ind.

BRIGGS, DOCK & DRUM.

PITTSBURGH PETROLEUM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, }
WEDNESDAY, December 20, 1876. }

The Crude market continues dull and weak, and prices have gone still lower. United certificates were quoted this P. M. at $1,08¾ and immediate shipment at $1.05. This is the lowest point the market has touched for several weeks. Refined market considerably demoralized, and prices declined 1c per gallon, with no buyers at the decline. New York and Philadelphia were quoted at 30c for December, but there were no buyers. Antwerp has still further declined, being quoted at 55a50f. The probabilities is that the decline at Antwerp has been too rapid to last long, and as one extreme follows another, that market may take an upward turn again before many days elapse. There is a continued fair home trade demand, and the market is quoted steady at 27c.

Oil Barrels firm at $1.50 for city make, with a light stock and brisk demand.

RECEIPTS CRUDE OIL VIA A. V. R. R.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
J. Bushnell	Model o w	1,332
J. Bushnell	Aladdin o w	83
J. Bushnell	Penn o w	633
Stevenson	Central o w	575
J. Bushnell	Riverside o w	239
Bradley	Miller o w	1,571
Stevenson	Peerless o w	962
J. Bushnell	Eagleo w	484
J. Bushnell	Petrolia o w	479
S. Craig	Dala	160
Total		6,918

SHIPMENTS OF REFINED OIL PER A. V. AND B. AND O. RAILROADS.

Shipper.		6bls.
American Oil Works	Brough, McK. & Co	1,334
Standard Oil Co	Warden, F & Co.	Balt. 204
Total		1,538

Wheat Crop of Great Britain.

The following are the various estimates of the wheat crop of 1876 in the United Kingdom:

	Quarters.
Agricultural Gazette, higher estimate	12,416,000
Agricultural Gazette, lower estimate	11,562,000
Yorkshire Post, higher estimate	12,560,000
Yorkshire Po t, lower estimate	11,760,000
Mr. Kaine Jackson, in Dornbusch's List	12,000,000
The Farmer	11,000,000
Magnet	12,000,000
Mark Lane Express	11,250,000
An estimate in Beerbohm's List	9,800,000
Mr. Scott, in Agricultural Gazette	10,800,000

The average of these estimates, 11,500,000 bushels per quarter, is equal to 102,000 000 bushels. The annual consumption of the United Kingdom is 22,500,000 to 23,000,000 qrs, equal to 180,000,000 to 184,000,000, making the requirements of foreign wheat for the year 78,000,000 to 82,000,000 bu. Mr. James Caird estimates the required imports of foreign wheat for the cereal year at 96,000,000 bushels.

Chicago Seed Market

The market ruled quiet and steady. The few orders received were filled at about previous prices, but parties who have been shipping, together with dealers, were holding off, owing to the advance in freights. The offerings in the various descriptions were only moderate, and there was no decided change in values, but at the same time an unsettled feeling prevailed, and for flax the tendency was to a lower range. A round lot of timothy, said to be prime, was sold at $1,70; common to good quoted at $1 50a1.65. A few sales of poor to good clover were reported at $7,25a8,60, and prime was quoted at $8,75a8,80. Flax sold at $1 42a1.50 for good to choice. Hungarian and millet were quotable at 55a 65c. Old buckwheat 70a75, and new at 85a90c.

Trade in Potatoes at Troy.

The New York *Bulletin* says: From the beginning of the season to the close of navigation on Saturday, the 2d inst., 284,215 bbls of potatoes were shipped from Troy to the New York market. Of these 59,134 bbls were shipped by the Clinton line of steamboats, and 225,000 by the Hudson River Railroad. The first shipment was made July 26, when 23 bbls were forwarded by the "City of Troy." The average price has been about $2 25 per bbl.

Stock of Grain in New York.

The following table exhibits the stock of grain in New York on the dates named:

	Dec. 9, 1876.	Dec. 16, 1876.	Dec. 23, 1876.	Dec. 19, 1874.
Wheat, bu	3,110,282	3,046,499	3,181,000	4,852,012
Corn, bu	3,384,364	4,370,282	674,800	1,919,706
Oats, bu	1,182,322	1,202,702	1,190,000	938,156
Rye, bu	218,841	271,467	.....	50,399
Barley, bu	873,316	907,631	.....	214,708

Enormous Shipments of Meats.

The shipments of meats of during the past week were 22,337 498 lbs—the largest on record. The largest weeks previous to this week was for the week ending Dec. 13, 1873—18,503-849 pounds.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago.

CHICAGO, December 20, 1876.

FLOUR—Firm; western extra $4,50a6,50. GRAIN—Wheat active, firm and higher; No. 2 Chicago spring $1,19 3-4 cash; $1,20¾ al,21¾ January; $1,21¾a1,21¾ February; No. 3 $1,07a1,07½; rejected 93a95c. Corn dull; 44¾c cash; 33 3-4c January. Rye quiet; 69 1-2c. Barley higher; 65a66c.

PROVISIONS—Pork: demand active and prices advanced; $16,75. Lard strong and higher; $10,55 cash; $10,57 1-2a10,60 January; $10,70 February. Bulk meats fairly active and a shade higher, 6¾a8¾a8¾c.

WHISKY—$1,08.

New York.

NEW YORK, December 20,—Flour: more disposition to purchase; receipts 9,000 bbls; superfine western and State $5,00a5,25; common to good $5,50a5,65; good to choice $5,70a5,75; white wheat extra $5,80a7; extra Ohio $5,30a7; extra St. Louis $5,30a8,25. Rye flour a shade firmer at $4,10a5,15. Corn meal is as active and unchanged. Wheat in fair demand; receipts 40,000 bush; ungraded spring $1,12a1,25; No. 2 Milwaukee $1,27; No. 2 Chicago spring $1,30; white Michigan $1,59. Rye firm; western 80a82c. Barley quiet; No. 1 Canada $1,02; No. 2 do. 98a$1. Corn dull and declining; receipts 18,000 bush; mixed new or grade 58½a59c; Kansas mixed old 62c. Oats fairly active; receipts 13,000 bushels; western mixed and State 38 1-2a51c. Hay firm; shipping 65c. Hops dull. Coffee quiet; Rio cargoes 19¾a20c. Sugar firm for fair to good refining; prime unchanged. Molasses and Rice quiet. Petroleum dull; crude 16c; refined 30c; naphtha 15c. Rosin firmer. Turpentine quiet at 50c. Eggs: western 28a29½c. Pork dull and heavy at $17,15a17,25. Beef quiet; long clear city middles firm at 9c, western 8¾c. Lard closing heavy; prime steam $11a11,05. Butter: western 14a30c. Cheese firm; 7a14¾c. Whisky firmer at $1,13.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 20.—Cotton quiet and steady 11¼a11¾c. Flour in fair demand. Wheat: demand light but holders firm; red $1,30a1,40. Corn easier; 43a45c. Oats quiet and steady; 30a38c. Rye quiet; 80a82c. Barley quiet and unchanged. Pork strong and higher; held at $16,75 spot sales; $17,25 buyer February. Lard: demand active and prices advanced; steam $10,30a10,55; closing outside; kettle $11,25a11-50. Bulk meats inactive; nominally 6¾a8¾a8¾a8¾c, all loose. Bacon quiet; 7¾a9¾a9 3 4c. Green meats steady and in fair demand; shoulders 6c; sides 8c. Hams 14 lbs. average 10c, 15 lbs. average 9¼c, 16 lbs. average 9¼c. Whisky; demand good and tendency upwards; $1,07. Butter quiet and unchanged.

Foreign.

LONDON, December 20.—Refined petroleum 26d.

ANTWERP, December 20.—Refined petroleum 55a60f.

LIVERPOOL, December 20. — Cotton steadier at 6 1-2a6 11-16d; sales 15,000 bales; speculation and export 2,000; American 7,000. California white wheat average 10s 10d a11s 2d; Club 11s a11s 6d; red western spring, No. 2 to No. 1, 9s 8d a10s 4d; winter 10s a10s 3d. Flour 23s 25a. Corn 26s 2½a 3s. Oats 3s 3¼d. Barley 3¼s. Pork 67¼s. Refined petroleum 24d; spirits 14s 15d.

Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20.—Petroleum quiet and unchanged. Flour steady; extra $5, Minnesota family $6,25a7. Wheat firm; amber $1,40a1,42; white $1,40a1,50. Rye 77a82c. Corn active; white new 54a 56½c; sail 55a56c. Oats firmer; western mixed 38a42c. Pork $17,25. Lard 10¾a 10¾c. Whisky, western $1,12. Butter firm; New York and Bradford county extra 32a33c; firsts 27a29c; western extra 25a27c; firsts 20a23c. Cheese firm; western 13 3-4a 14 3-4c. Eggs: western fresh 28a30.c

Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, December 20.—Flour firm and unchanged. Wheat scarce and firm; No. 2 red western $1,38. Corn: western mixed 59c. Oats dull; western mixed 36 a38c. Rye 70a80½c. Cloverseed active at $14,50. Butter unchanged. Petroleum: crude easier; 12¾a12½c; refined nominally 31c. Coffee strong and unchanged. Whisky firm; $1,13a1,13¼.

Milwaukee.

MILWAUKEE, December 20. — Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat opened higher and closed strong; No. 1 Milwaukee $1,27½; No. 2 $1,21½; No. 3 $1,11½. Corn firm; No. 2 44c. Oats steadier; No. 2 32½c. Rye dull; No. 1 60c. Barley quiet; No. 2 spring cash and December 74¾c; January 76¾c; No. 3 46c.

New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—Flour firm; superfine $5,50a5,75; extra $6,00; choice extra $7,00a7,75. Corn quiet; yellow 62c. Pork firm; $17,25a17,50. Lard dull; tierce 10¾a10 3-4c; keg 11a12c. Whisky: rectified $1,10. Sugar firm; fair to fully fair 7¾a7¾c; prime to choice 8a8¼c. Molasses; common 35a38c; centrifugal 50a53c.

TOLEDO, December 20. — Flour steady. Wheat firmer; amber Michigan $1,41; seller January $1,40 3-4; seller February $1,43; No. 3 red $1,22; rejected held $1,12½. Corn steady; high mixed 48c; new 47c; rejected 44 3-4c. Oats dull and nominal; No. 2 34½c offered; seller January 35 1-2c.

Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, December 20.—Cotton quiet at 11¾c. Flour firm; extra $4,50a4,75; family $5a5,50. Wheat dull and nominal. Corn steady at 45a46c. Rye firm at 80c. Oats quiet; white 40a42c; mixed 37a39c. Pork firm at $16,50. Bulk meats unchanged. Lard dull; 10¼a10¾c. Whisky firm; $1,06.

Oswego.

OSWEGO, December 20.—Wheat firm; No. 1 Milwaukee held out of market; No. 2 white Toledo $1,30; extra white Michigan $1,35. Corn firm; western mixed 58c.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, December 20.—Cotton steady; middling 11¼c; receipts 2,900 bales; shipments 970. Others unchanged.

Boston.

BOSTON, December 20.—Flour firm. Wheat steady. Corn steady. Oats firm.

Live Stock.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Beeves: receipts 2 days 1,930 head, against 2,600 same time last week; supply largely made up of heavy premium cattle; demand fair for all grades with portion decline on extra and premium grades, and an advance of ¼c on ordinary to good; premium or Christmas steers 1,550 to 2,000 lbs. 51a12c; fair to extra 9¾a10¾c; inferior to medium 7¾a9½c; with very poor stags down to 6½c. Sheep: receipts for 2 days 2,940 head, against 3,330 same time last week; not much demand for ordinary stocks, but little firmer feeling; common to prime sheep 4c to 6¼c; extra 6¼a6½c; grand small bunch premium wethers, 244 lbs. 6¾. Swine: receipts 12,330 head for two days, against 12,130 same time last week; market dull for alive at $6a6,20, per 100 lbs., with one car at $6,25 from yesterday, which made loss to slaughterer of $100.

BUFFALO, December 20.—Cattle: receipts 215; total for the week 5,026; market quiet; first receipts 15 cars consigned through; sales of 60 cars; good to prime steers strong at opening rates of the week; medium and common stock 10a15c weaker; about all the good and medium stock sold; 10 cars common unsold; fair shipper's grades $4,50 to $5,75; butcher's cattle $3,80a4,50; stockers $3,60a4,20. Sheep and lambs: receipts 600; total for the week 6,600; market dull and slow; best lots weak at yesterday's quotations, or full ¼a¼c off last week's closing rates; poor stock unquotable, selling at buyers' offers; 12 cars western sheep for the eastern markets; medium to fair $4,50a 4,62½; best averaging 102 to 107 lbs., $4,75a $5,25; 3 cars feeders $3,70 to $5; 4 cars scalawags, 2 cars good Canada sheep, and 6 cars common stuff unsold. Hogs: receipts 9,200; total for the week 9,250; market active; sales 13 cars; Yorkers, commonest light to fair $5,25a5,50; good to best $5,60a5,75; 4 cars medium to fair heavy $5,75a6; no prime lots offered; light pigs $4,50a4,75.

BALTIMORE, December 20.—Cattle market fairly active and prices higher, especially for tops; very best 5½a7½c; first quality 4¾a5 1-2c; medium or good fair quality 3¾a4 1-8c; ordinary thin steers, oxen and cows, 3a3½c; no sales at 3½a 4 1-2c; receipts 1,812 head; sales 1,158 head. Hogs in good demand at higher rates; range 7a9¾c; receipts 4,677. Sheep in moderate demand and prices a shade higher; range 4a 5¾c; receipts 2,210.

CINCINNATI, December 20.—Hogs steady and in good demand; common $5,10a5,55; fair to good light $5,60a5,85; packing $5,80a 6; heavy $6,05a6,10.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 20.— Hogs: receipts 3,400.

Dry Goods.

NEW YORK, December 20. — Brown and colored cottons are more active and firmly held. Denims are closely sold up. Ginghams are closely sold out by agents. Prints are in fair request. Men's wear woolen are in irregular demand. Flannels are quiet. The *Bulletin* says grain bags are jobbing at low prices. Foreign goods are dull.

Wool.

BOSTON, December 20.—Wool in moderate demand and prices steady and firm; fine fleeces scarce; most desirable lots held for $1, all cleans on Western Fleeces; Ohio and Pennsylvania 45a50c; Michigan and Wisconsin 39a42c; combing and delaine 45a55c; pulled wool scarce and firm; superfine and extra 35a46c.

Cotton.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Cotton steady at 12¼a12 5 16c; futures closed steady; December 12¼a12 9-32c; January 12 15-32a 12 7-16c; February 12 21-32a12 11-16c; March 12⅝c.

IMPORTS BY RAILROAD.

PITTSBURGH, CINCINNATI & ST. LOUIS R. R.—6 pkgs tobacco, Bennett & Hill, 9 do, J Fullerton; 2 cars 1 iron, W Mullins; 5 tubs butter, Voigt, M & Co; 10 do, J H Loh; 20 do, 132 bbls eggs, 6 do apples, 2 bbls vinegar by the Clarion line; 10 do, Mackeown, T & Co; 11 do beans, 6 tubs butter, Wilbert & W; 2 cases crackers, Lusbee Bro; 2 bbls poultry, H Bos jr; 24 do molasses, T C Jenkins; 15 do, 10 do hominy, 5 bbls sugar, S Ewart; 5 do; W Cooper; 5 do, Rheingar, W Hasagar; 1 car staves, Fred Kimber; 700 bbls flour, F W Jenkins; 5 bbls oil, S M Willock; 2 bdls wheels, Pgh Wagon Co; Wm Lee, Hallowell & Co; 1 bdl do, H & McCracken; 32 bxs f fish, Garrett & S; 10 do, B Pulpress; 25 do soap, Strunz & W; 28 pkgs furniture, one J H Harvey; 84 do, D Hoffmeister; 1 do, Kewara, Cavitt & F; 20 bdls hides, J Callery; 41 pkgs furniture, J G Hutin; 1 bbl beans, P Duff & Son; 10 bdls bark, H Langkamp; 42 bdls do, Pittsburgh Tanneries; 5 bdls paper, D Gregg & Co; 2 do, F Bruggeman; 19 rolls leather, J Callery; 1 bbl c nuts, Head C & Co; 8 bbls oats 9 do corn, B Miller; 2 bbls beans 9 do lard, Voigt, M & Co; 10 cases matches, J T Colwin; 25 bxs pipes, L M Nerhardt; 1 bbl meal, S Lindsay; 11 do, C C Jenkins; 1 do, Wm Lee, Welshrod & W.

PITTSBURGH, FT. WAYNE & CHICAGO R. R.—1 car cooperage, H D Mason; 1 do, Powell &

HOME NEWS.

Iron City College.

Corner Penn avenue and Sixth street, Pittsburgh. Day and evening sessions. Students admitted at any time. For terms call on, or address J. C. Smith, A. M. Principal.

The probabilities for to-day are slightly warmer, southerly to westerly winds, with slight change in pressure, and partly cloudy weather.

CHECKERS.

Yesterday's Play—A Good Score.

The game at the headquarters yesterday afternoon was commenced between Mr. Martins and Mr. James Benney, of Allegheny, who played two games, the English champion winning both. Mr. Scott then took Mr. Benney's place and lost two games. M. F. Clouser then faced the old veteran, and one draw succeeded another until the close of the play, no win being served for either player. In the evening, after a little practice play between Messrs. Martins and Clouser, the game regularly opened between Reed and Martins. A mere oversight in the first game allowed Mr. Martins to win. The following two games, a Glasgow and a Fife, were drawn. Afterwards Messrs. Bradley and Canfield contested two games, the former winning both. Messrs. Reed and Clouser now entered the lists, the former opening the Double Corner game, which resulted in a well contested draw, closing the play for the day.

This afternoon and evening Mr. Martins to gratify any one who may a game with him, and will in the absence of other ...ager of Reed, or perchance Mr. ... oppose the champion. The ...

score yesterday sums up as follows:

Martins....	2	Benney.... 0	Drawn.... 0
Martins....	2	Scott..... 0	Drawn.... 0
Martins....	0	Clouser .. 0	Drawn.... 3
Martins....	1	Reed 0	Drawn.... 2
Total.....	5	0	5

LOOK ON THIS PICTURE.

The Proposed Reduction of the Salaries of Allegheny Firemen—Is it True Economy?

The Common Council of Allegheny City will doubtless be required this evening to act upon the ordinance providing for a reduction in the pay of firemen. Inasmuch as this particular feature of the proposed decrease of the wages if all municipal employes has been the subject of much discussion it is incumbent upon members of Councils to weigh the matter thoughtfully and carefully, and vote with prudence. Some think the firemen are able to stand a reduction, and many think that it would be very injudicious to abbreviate their annual stipend. It is only a few years since Allegheny was obliged to increase the salaries of its firemen because Pittsburgh, which was paying more money, was then getting all the most active and best informed men. At present Allegheny has a fire department that for efficiency is not surpassed in this country, and it is possible that a reduction in pay would jeopardize its usefulness. The firemen of Pittsburgh get less than those of any other city in which a paid department exists except in Allegheny, where they get still less. The following comparative statement shows the salaries paid in both cities:

	Pittsburgh.	*Allegheny.*
Chief Engineer.....	$1,680	$1,500
Superintendent Fire Alarm Telegraph....	1,200	900
Foreman.....	1,020	846
Engineers.....	1,000	912
Drivers.....	930	780
Stokers and Hosemen..	900	780

In addition to the above the labor in Allegheny is performed by a smaller number of men, the engine companies having one less and the truck company four men less than the Pittsburgh companies. This is another fact worthy of consideration. Then it is to be further remembered that the exposure and danger to which firemen are subjected is quite material, and a reduction of wages the city is liable to lose the services of its most efficient firemen. A worthless department may in one year permit more damage by careless management of conflagrations than all the salaries would aggregate.

HOMICIDE.

The Lenkner-Shaffer Murder—The Case Submitted to the Jury Last Evening.

The argument of counsel in the case of Henry Lenkner, indicted for the murder of Henry Shaffer, was resumed and concluded, and after the charge of the court the case was submitted to the jury last evening. R. M. Gibson, Esq., made the argument for the prisoner, and it was one of his ablest efforts, lasting over three hours and a half. The case is one of the most peculiar, taking it in all its phases, that has ever been tried in this court, and there was intense interest manifested, by the members of the bar, as well as by the public generally, to know what line of argument Mr. Gibson would adopt to explain away the strong chain of circumstances with which the Commonwealth had encircled the prisoner, and which, it was claimed by many, pointed conclusively to him as the guilty man. The evidence, as was previously stated, was all ... or so far as the Commonwealth is concerned, no human eye of the murderous witness Henry Shaffer, yet the circumstances proven such a state of circumstances when they rested their case that there seemed but little doubt in the minds of those who heard it of the guilt of the accused. The defense put in evidence a few facts, trifling of themselves, yet of great moment to the prisoner, as they tended to explain certain of the strong points in the commonwealth's testimony in a way consistent with his innocence. In addition to this witnesses were called, many of them well known and prominent business men in the community, by whom they established a character for defendant for "peace and honesty" second to that of no man in the country, and from which his counsel builded their hopes These little facts were taken up by Mr. Gibson, and although they were as grains of mustard seed, of themselves, he made them appear as mountains before he concluded. The force of his argument was the want of a motive on the part of the accused to commit the deed.

Mr. Gibson was followed by Major Montooth, who closed for the prosecution in a very able argument, in which he claimed that the circumstances pointed clearly and conclusively to Lenkner as the murderer.

Judge Stowe then delivered the charge of the court in his usual clear and impartial manner, defining the law of homicide, and applying it to the proven facts in the case ... ting, as is too frequently ... on the facts which are for ... The jury then retired for ... considerable speculation among both lawyers and laymen last evening as to what the verdict would be, and the prevailing opinion was that the jury would either disagree or return a verdict of not guilty.

THE M. E. CONFERENCE.

Proceedings of Yesterday's Session—Reports of Various Kinds—Local Church Extension Board.

The second and concluding day's session of the North Pittsburgh M. E. Conference commenced yesterday morning in Christ church, at the corner of Penn avenue and Eighth street. Rev. T. N. Boyle, the Presiding Elder, occupied the chair. The religious exercises were conducted by Rev. J. W. Miles. Statements and reports were made by Rev. Boyle regarding the state of the church in this district. Rev. F. Ball, D. D., of the West Virginia Conference, was introduced and made a speech showing the condition of the church in the district with which he is connected. The committee on making distributions of appropriations for benevolent purposes was continued until the apportionment of the districts shall have been made. Revs. J. B. Snyder and C. W. Smith were added to the committee on programme for the next district conference.

The afternoon session was presided over by Bishop Peck, who arrived at noon. The appointment of another district conference during the current year was directed. The Fifth avenue M. E. church was selected as the place for the next meeting. The reports of Sunday School Superintendents were called for and Liberty street, Smithfield street, Christ church, Fifth avenue, Centenary, Emory, Oakland, Squirrel Hill, Carson street, Wilson, Allentown, Mt. Washington and Homewood were called, and the Superintendents being absent no reports were received. Centenary, through its pastor, Rev. Williams, offered the Superintendent's report in writing, but it was not accepted. Class leaders' reports were called for and D. M. Wallaker and R. J. Spealman being the only ones present they submitted their reports. The committee on examination of candidates for admission to traveling connection reported that no candidates were presented.

The report of the Committee on Home Missions was submitted and adopted. It states that the Church Home Missionary Society is in active operation and accomplishing much good; it recommends that arrangements be made to supply the Thirty-third street church, so to give the City Missionary an opportunity to visit other missions in the city; it further recommends, finally, the appointment of an advisory board, to consist of the pastor of each charge, the laymen elected by each quarterly meeting in the district, and the Presiding Elder, the duty of which shall be to decide upon the advisability of erecting new buildings, to manage the construction of buildings already commenced, to keep an eye on all enterprises recommended as worthy of help, and to approve or disapprove the location of new church edifices. Nine members shall constitute a quorum, and the board shall be known as the Pittsburgh Board of Church Extension.

Dr. C. C. McCabe addressed the conference in the interest of the Church Extension Society, a committee was appointed to arrange for local preachers and exhorters, and then the conference adjourned *sine die*.

Buy the Small Cakes made by S. S. Marvin & Co. You will find the quality excellent and pleasing to all.

A large assortment of Tree Ornaments very cheap. YOUNGSON'S.

THE COURT RECORD.

Proceedings in the Several Courts Yesterday.

U. S. District Court.

JUDGE KETCHAM.

S. M. Humphreys, bankrupt, Erie county. Petition for discharge presented, and final examination ordered before Register Woodruff.

Ziegler, Baker & Co., bankrupts, Westmoreland county. Register ordered to make distribution of the fund in hands of assignee. And assignee directed to refund to petitioning creditors the sum advanced to secure costs.

A. G. Snow, bankrupt, Luzerne county. Discharged from all his debts.

Michael Bigler, bankrupt Luzerne county. Petition of assignee for discharge presented, and order for examination before Register Willard.

Peter Campbell, bankrupt, Westmoreland county. Argument on Register's report distributing fund. Decision of Court withheld.

Elder & Fair, debtors, Clarion county. Order to show cause why H. Fair should not be adjudged a bankrupt. In same case restraining orders granted against certain execution creditors.

Lutton & White vs. John Mitchell, debtor Lawrence county. Hearing on motion for injunction continued to the 28th inst.

Weltach, Couch & Co., bankrupts, Pittsburgh. Fifth National Bank designated depository for the funds in this case.

U. S. Circuit Court.

JUDGE M'KENNAN

Mary M. Kerugham vs. Noble Thompson et al. Exceptions to Master's report. Argument concluded and decision reserved. A large ... of land near New Castle is involved in this case, which is an action for alleged fraud on the part of Thompson, acting as administrator of D. M. Keruaghan, deceased.

Common Pleas, No 1.

JUDGES STERRETT AND COLLIER.

Robert Stevenson vs. Edward Kelly and John Doyle; action for damages for having been ejected from a house. Jury out.

Lane & McAllister vs. E. D. Wilt and Sarah Wilt, his wife. Verdict for plaintiffs for $64.77.

R. T. Taylor vs. C. Scully, guardian of Mary and Kate Guthrie. Verdict for plaintiff for $587 05.

H. H. Beck vs. George Stewart. Verdict for plaintiff for $543 42.

L. W. Morgan vs. Thomas Fawcett et al. Motion and reason for a new trial.

D. L. Patterson & Co. vs. Mulvehill, Gumbert & Co., owners of the steamboat Tom Rees, No. 2; action for rent for landing. On trial.

John McKibbon vs. the Blair Iron and Steel Company et al. Leave granted to strike off the name of Thomas A. Scott as one of the defendants in the case. The action in this case was for materials furnished. Verdict against the Blair Iron and Steel Company for $987.81, and against the other defendants for $676.51, subject to the opinion of the Court on question of law reserved.

Murtland & Scott vs. the same. Same motion granted as in above case. Also for materials furnished. Verdict against the Blair Iron and Steel Company for $1,472.30, and against the other defendants for the same amount, also subject to the opinion of the Court.

Common Pleas No. 2.

JUDGES KIRKPATRICK AND WHITE.

Wm. Richardson vs. the Alleuania Fire Insurance Company. Action on an insurance policy on property in Brownstown, Westmoreland county. Verdict for plaintiff for $868.53.

Daniel Bushnell, for use of Lockhart & Frew, vs. the Union Refining and Storing Company, which has been on trial for several days before Judge Kirkpatrick. Counsel addressed the jury yesterday afternoon.

James Caldwell vs. Xavier Walz. Rule on plaintiff to show cause why appeal should not be quashed.

John Huckestein vs. Wacher. Rule to show cause why judgment of *sol pros.* should not be set aside and appeal quashed.

Orphans' Court.

JUDGE HAWKINS.

John Burrey and Charles Burrey, minors; Louis Berger appointed guardian.

Wm. Burrey and Albert Burrey, minors; Louis Berger appointed guardian.

Wm. Robinson, Jr., deceased; Wm. H. Shoenberger, executor, discharged at his petition.

Laura E. Moore, Lucy E. Abrams and Jennie R. Abrams, minors; Henry C. Moore appointed guardian.

John Sterrett, deceased. Widow's appraisement presented and approved *nasi.*

S. A. Feldkamp and Mary S. Snare, minors. William H. Reed appointed guardian.

Mary Watson, deceased. J. G. McKelvy appointed guardian *ad litem* of Margaret and Robert Barker, and Dr. James McCarrell appointed guardian of Agnes F., Elisha P. and Wm. T. Watson.

AUDIT LIST FOR TO-DAY.

John Snyder, Jacob Bown, Henry Wiseman, Frank Gazzi, James Campbell, Hugh Brown, Wm. Dunn, Margaret Pomeroy, John E. McGirr, James C. Watt, deceased.

Criminal Court.

JUDGE STOWE.

Commonwealth vs. Henry Linkner, indicted for the murder of Henry Shaffer; previously reported. Jury out.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Commonwealth vs.

Charles Burke,	Thos. Flaherty,
Paddy May,	John Anderson.
John Davis,	Chas. Wilbert,
W. McIntosh,	S. Cunningham,
Thos. McCarty et al.	Wm. Dwinning et al.
Peter Hamill,	L. Wilson,
John Gorley,	Samuel Watkins,
Joseph Saville,	John Smith,
Thomas Mullen,	John Maginnis, (2)
H. C. Campbell,	Thos. O'Rourke,
G. F. Karrson,	H. Riemenschneider.
S. R. Emory et al.,	

Court Brevities.

ALBERT C. JOHNSTON, ESQ., of this city, was, on motion of W. G. Crawford, Esq., admitted to practice in the U. S. courts.

THE Criminal Court room has not been so densely crowded for several days as it was yesterday morning. Mr Gibson's argument in the Lenkner-Shaffer homicide trial was the attraction.

THE case of the Commonwealth vs. Charles, *alias* "Sailor," Burke, indicted for felonious assault and battery, on oath of Thomas Hunter, will be taken up in the Criminal Court this morning, unless the counsel for defendant can show good reasons for having it postponed again.

LADIES' FUR BULLETIN.

The Largest and Finest Stock in the City—Immense Line Seal Sacques, Mink Sable Cloaks, Ladies' and Children's Furs of all Kinds—At a Great Reduction, at Fleming & Ogleve's, 139 Wood street.

Genuine Seal Sacques, $50 00.
Genuine Seal Sacques, $75 00.
Genuine Seal Sacques, $100 00.
Mink Sable Sets.
Fine Seal Sets.
Black Marten Sets.
French Seal Sets.
Ladies' Seal Hats.
Ladies' Seal Turbans.
Ladies' Seal Gloves.
Gents' Beaver, Otter and Seal Caps, Collars and Gloves.

This establishment is daily receiving fresh invoices of the above goods, which are being sold at prices unequaled in the country by any other house in the city.

The extensive line of Fur Goods shown by this house should induce all to call and examine their goods and prices before purchasing. One Price System is strictly adhered to.

A Sensible Holiday Present.

For your mother, wife or sister nothing could be more suitable than a WILSON SEWING MACHINE. With its recent improvements it is unquestionably at the head of the list, and cannot fail to give entire satisfaction to the purchaser. We solicit a call and cordially invite examination, and the *important matter of prices* can assure those contemplating a purchase, that we will *make prices to suit. Cash prices* will be found especially low. Give us a call and get a bargain.

F. C. BIGGERT,
8 Sixth street.

For the Accommodation

of those who wish to buy holiday gifts, and have no time during business hours, F. H. Eaton & Co., 25 Fifth avenue, will have their store open till 9 o'clock every evening this week.

Toys! Toys!! Toys!!!

wholesale andretail. Special inducements to everybody. For bargains in Toys and Holiday Goods call at J. D. Thompson & Co.'s, 176 and 178 Wood street.

Where to Buy Gloves.

Men's, Ladies' and Children's Winter Gloves and Gauntlets, in kid, castor, cloth, silk, buck and fleshers, lined and unlined; also fur tops. Our new prices sell them every time.

H. J. ADAMS,
98 Fifth avenue.

A Photograph

Made by Dabbs, and tastefully framed, is always an acceptable Christmas present and will last forever.

Elegant Display.

OF
CHRISTMAS GOODS.
at
J. R. REED & Co.,
No. 93 MARKET STREET.

GROWING PICTURES

GIVEN WITH EVERY POUND OF CANDY AT L. T. YODER'S, 51 SMITHFIELD STREET.

I expect to move my store about the first of the month, and am desirous of closing out my Christmas goods, and will sell them very cheap.

JAS. B. YOUNGSON.

We Have Tried the deep sea oysters sold by B. Pulpross and will eat no other. We got them at his stand in the Pittsburgh Market.

The Largest and finest stock of the latest styles in Gents' Hats and Caps at Thomas J. Barnes' store, No. 117 Wood street, four doors from Fifth avenue.

ANOTHER FALLEN ONE.

A Defaulter in the Post Office—The Legitimate Result of Wine and Women"—Billy Wall's Disgraceful Flight.

The fact that another subordinate in the Post Office had become a defaulter for a considerable amount, shocked and startled the community yesterday. The Post Office officials endeavored to keep the matter quiet, but this it was found impossible to do as the facts necessarily leaked out. It was soon known among the select that Wm. C. Wall, Superintendent of the money order department was a defaulter for an amount variously estimated at from $1,000 to $9,000.

Postmaster Negley had been in Washington for about a week, and returned last Monday. The first intimation of the doubtful proceedings of Wall was in a letter from Uniontown, connecting him (Wall) with the conspiracy to rob the bank at that place. He was then informed that there were several suspicious circumstances connected with the Superintendent's administration of affairs in the money order department. An investigation was immediately instituted, the result of which was Wall's discharge by the postmaster on Tuesday evening. Before the discharge was made, however, all the papers, vouchers, &c., of the money order department, including drafts covering about $6,000 in money orders from Western Pennsylvania, West Va., and Eastern Ohio, were taken charge of. After this Wall obtained drafts on Detroit, Mich., to the amount of $2,500. These drafts Wall took to the Tradesmen's National Bank (the Government depository) yesterday morning and had them cashed before notice could be given.

The discovery of the defalcation, as a matter of course, excited in the officers a desire to obtain the criminal, and therefore a warrant for his arrest was issued by U. S. Commissioner McCandless as soon as he had reached his office yesterday morning. Both the United States and the city detectives immediately started to look him up. They soon ascertained that after he had returned from the Tradesmen's Bank he purchased a ticket for the east over the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and telegrams were accordingly sent out to all stations on that road, giving a description of him, and an order for his arrest. About 12 o'clock a telegram was received from Connellsville stating that a man answering the description had been arrested, but subsequently released. Telegrams were therefore sent forward to re-arrest the man at the next station. It transpired later in the day that the man arrested was not Wall, and the detectives were therefore off the scent. Up to the time of going to press this morning nothing definite as to his whereabouts had been received, although special agent Hopkins, U. S. Detective Pendar, and the city detectives have been assiduously searching for him. It is their belief that he has not left the city at all, but is now in town still hidden in some retreat yet unknown, watching his chance to get away. If this is the case, the purchase of a ticket for the East was but a ruse on his part.

The exact amount of the defalcation, as already stated, is not yet known, and cannot be ascertained until information is received from Washington. It is, however, believed to be not less than $7,000, and it may possibly reach $10,000. Before he left Wall destroyed books, vouchers, &c., to such an extent as to preclude the possibility of knowing just what he has done. It was but a week or two ago that a special agent of the Postoffice Department examined the business of the money order department and found nothing wrong. Still, it is believed that Wall had been indulging in peculations for some time past. He has for several months been living in a manner that for extravagant expenditure excited the wonder of his acquaintances to know how he could afford it on his salary. Not only has he been extravagant in his household expenditures, but he has been spending more money on "wines and wine" than it was believed his income would warrant. In fact, it is beyond a doubt that these two latter potent influences for evil have compassed his ruin.

The belief that his peculations have extended over a considerable period is strengthened by the fact that his returns to the department were undoubtedly "doctored." The papers of his department that were taken charge of Tuesday evening showed that he was indebted to the Government $20,000, yet his ostensible receipts amounted to $21,000, or one thousand dollars in excess of the debt.

Wall has been connected with the Postoffice in this city for over twelve years. He was for some time a carrier on a Liberty street route, and by political influence was promoted to a clerkship in the money order department. At the time of the defalcation of Montooth, Wall was chief clerk of the department, and was promoted to the office of superintendent. He is a married man, and resided on High street.

While regretting exceedingly that this disgrace has come on the Postoffice and Mr. Wall's family, we cannot refrain from saying that the frequent defalcations that have occurred in the money order department of the office indicate very strongly that there is not that care and attention given to the department that there should be. It is certainly time that this kind of work should be effectually stopped. During the last few years the GAZETTE has received many letters complaining that money sent us through the postoffice has not reached us. We cannot but think that positive knowledge in this city like Pittsburgh do not give that attention to business that they are paid to give.

Wall's bond only amounted to $3,000, Mr. W. E. Austin being his security. To that extent Mr. Austin is liable, and every cent over that Postmaster Negley, as a matter of course, will be compelled to make good.

A. GAZETTE reporter last evening called upon Postmaster Negley, but could learn nothing further than the facts as above stated. Mr. Negley was very much excited by the transaction, and to all inquiries answered "I don't know." He didn't know how it was that Wall had returned $1,000 more than was due the Government, by the papers; he didn't know what the exact amount of the defalcation, nor had he the least idea where Wall is. He said, however, that he would know to-day the exact amount of the defalcation, as he would receive the returns he expected from Washington. The arrest at Connellsville, he said, amounted to nothing, as the person was not Wall. Further than that he knew nothing and had nothing to communicate.

Verona Council.

Council met at the Council Room; called to order at 7 P. M.

Members present: Jno. R. Cribbs, Daniel Stotler, A. G. Shade, Wm. J. Quinn and Wm. Anderson; Burgess Rowand in the chair.

Clerk-Elect Charles Reinhard was sworn in.

Minutes of Nov. 27th and Dec. 4th read and approved.

The President appointed committees as follows:

Streets—Messrs. John R. Cribbs, Daniel Stotler and Wm. Anderson.

Finance—Messrs. Daniel Stotler, W. J. Quinn and John R. Cribbs.

Buildings—Messrs. W. J. Quinn, Jos. Gallagher and Daniel Stotler.

Ordinances—Messrs. Wm. Anderson, A. G. Shade and Daniel Stotler.

Police—Messrs. A. G. Shade, Wm. Anderson and W. J. Quinn.

Claims and Accounts—Messrs. Wm. Anderson, John R. Cribbs and Daniel Stotler.

On motion that Fifth street be opened from College avenue to line of M. A. Bright's property, and carried.

A motion that Wm. Anderson that we proceed to elect a High Constable, was seconded by A. G. Shade. Carried.

Wm. Anderson nominated Prestley Catz; and R. Cribbs nominated George W. DeCamp.

On motion of Daniel Stotler, nomination closed.

Vote called—Prestley Catz received four votes, and Geo. W. DeCamp one vote. Prestley Catz declared elected High Constable of Verona borough.

Burgess Rowand called Daniel Stotler to the chair, and presented his resignation as Burgess.

To the Members of the Council of the Borough of Verona:

The undersigned having been re-elected for the fourth term, and thereby having been fully vindicated in all his official acts by the citizens and tax-payers of the borough; now in pursuance of a long contemplated intention, which in justic to himself could not be ere this carried out, owing to the unanimity and satisfaction he has given to himself and colleagues, he declines to be further a candidate for the office of Burgess of said borough for the ensuing term.

Wm. ANDERSON.

Council then proceeded to ballot for Burgess, and Geo. W. DeCamp received four votes, and Wm. Anderson two votes. Geo. W. DeCamp declared elected Burgess.

Council then proceeded to ballot for Councilmen, and Jno. R. Cribbs received four votes, and Wm. Anderson two votes. Jno. R. Cribbs declared elected Councilman.

Council then proceeded to ballot for Councilman, and Daniel Stotler received four votes, and Jos. Gallagher two votes. Daniel Stotler declared elected Councilman.

Council then proceeded to ballot for Councilman, and Wm. J. Quinn received four votes, and Jos. Gallagher two votes. Wm. J. Quinn declared elected Councilman.

Council then proceeded to ballot for Councilman, and A. G. Shade received four votes, and Jos. Gallagher two votes. A. G. Shade declared elected Councilman.

Council then proceeded to ballot for Councilman, and Wm. Anderson received four votes, and Jos. Gallagher two votes. Wm. Anderson declared elected Councilman.

Council then proceeded to ballot for Councilman, and Jos. Gallagher received four votes, and Jos. Gallagher two votes. Jos. Gallagher declared elected Councilman.

Council then proceeded to ballot for Councilman, and Jno. R. Cribbs received four votes, and Jos. Gallagher